MONDAY
May 15, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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Vol.54 • No.114

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BOMMAI, PTR MAY BE REPLACED

GST Council needs to rejig GoMs

NEWS » PAGE 9

KARNATAKA POLLS

How Congress won an absolute majority

LOKNITI-CSDS » PAGE 7

HEATWAVE WARNING

IMD issues fourth alert in Konkan region

NEWS » PAGE 10

PIVOTAL VOTE

Turkey decides Erdogan's future

The nation could be looking at a more secular path

WORLD » PAGE 11

RINKU AT IT AGAIN

KKR beats CSK, stays alive; RCB crushes RR

SPORT » PAGE 13

10 die after consuming spurious liquor in T.N.

The Hindu Bureau
VILLUPURAM/CHENNAI

Ten persons died after consuming spurious liquor in Villupuram and Chengalpattu districts of north Tamil Nadu since Friday, the police said.

Six persons from Ekkiyarkuppam, near Marakkanam, in Villupuram district died on Sunday. In Maduranthakam in Chengalpattu district, two died on Friday and a couple died on Sunday. Over a dozen persons from Ekkiyarkuppam are undergoing treatment in hospitals in Puducherry.

Police sources said over 15 persons, mostly fishermen from the coastal hamlet of Ekkiyarkuppam, had bought the brew from one Amaran. It was reportedly a cocktail of methanol, chemicals and water, sold as arrack.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

New CLP asks Kharge to pick next Karnataka CM

Several formulas, including rotating the position between two leaders and creating multiple deputy chief ministerial berths to accommodate various communities, are being discussed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting on Sunday, which was preceded by intense lobbying, unanimously passed a one-line resolution authorising the president of the All India Congress Committee, Mallikarjun Kharge, to choose the new Chief Minister of the State.

This comes amid intense competition between former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president D.K. Shivakumar for the post. During the campaign, the two leaders had put up a united front, saying that both of them were aspirants for chief ministership, but that the new MLAs and the party high command would take the final call.

Party sources were hopeful of brokering a compromise between Siddaramiah and D.K. Shivakumar soon. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In results announced on Saturday, the Congress won 135 seats, the highest tally for any party in Karnataka's Assembly election since 1989, reducing the BJP to 66 seats and the Janata Dal(S) to 19.

In Sunday's meeting, Mr. Siddaramaiah proposed the one-line resolution, which was supported by Mr. Shivakumar and others, and was then passed unanimously.

With this resolution, the action is likely to shift to New Delhi from Monday. Several formulae, including rotating the position between the two leaders, and also creating multiple deputy chief ministerial berths to accommodate various communities, were being discussed, sources said.

Party sources were hopeful of brokering a compromise solution between the two leaders in the next three or four days.

Given that both leaders have a strong base in the State and a claim to power, and that the Congress has faced rebellion in States such as Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan over its choice of Chief Ministers, the party is treading carefully, sources said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

ICSE examination: City girl is among national toppers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With 99.8%, Annanya Karthik from Bengaluru figured in the list of national-level toppers in the ICSE examination (Class X) results announced on Sunday. She is a student of Vidyaniketan School in Hebbal. A total of nine students secured the top spot across the country.

Annanya Karthik scored 99.8%

Ms. Karthik said that she was not expecting to become a national topper. "I was definitely not expecting this rank. When I checked my results, I felt exhilarated," she said.

Speaking about her study methods, she said that her focus was always on understanding a concept clearly. "You have to understand a concept, observe, and focus, while the teachers are teaching. It is not about memorising. This approach helped me with my exam," she said.

Ms. Karthik also sings and performs in theatre as a hobby. While her father works as a corporate development officer, her mother is a homemaker. Ms. Karthik said that she had not decided on a career path yet. "I'm interested in economics and finance, theatre and astronomy. I have not made a choice yet," she said.

STUDENTS FARE WELL
» PAGE 2
RESULTS DECLARED
» PAGE 10

NEARBY

BJP to look into reasons for defeat

BENGALURU
Shocked by the miserable defeat in the Assembly elections, the BJP is set to hold meetings of its candidates and leaders to decipher the reasons for its loss. » Page 3

Eight seats were decided by thin margins

BENGALURU
As many as eight seats were decided by wafer-thin margins of less than 1,000 votes with the Congress and the BJP having five and three such victories, respectively, in the Assembly elections. » Page 4

EDUCATIONPLUS » PAGES 4 & 5

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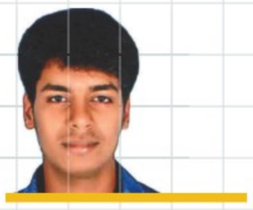
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NEWS IN NUMBERS

The huge margin with which Cong. won in 12 seats in Karnataka

50,000 votes. With a vote share of 75% and with a huge margin of over one lakh votes, Congress chief D. K. Shivakumar defeated his closest rival B. Nagaraju of Janata Dal-Secular. PTI

The State Ministers who lost in Assembly election of Karnataka

14 Ministers. Infrastructure Development Minister, V. Somanna who contested from Varuna and Chamarajanagar, and Irrigation Minister Govind Karjol, who contested from Mudhol were among the Ministers who lost the Karnataka Assembly election. PTI

Voters who opted for NOTA in the latest Karnataka election

2.6 lakh voters. Many voters who exercised their franchise in the Karnataka polls used the 'none of the above' (NOTA) option, according to Election Commission. NOTA voters form 0.7% of the nearly 3.84 crore people who came out to vote. PTI

Himachal Pradesh to cover hectares of land for orange production

1,800 hectares. The proposal was made by the Himachal Pradesh government under the HP Subtropical Horticulture, Irrigation and Value Addition (SHIVA) project funded by the Asian Development Bank. PTI

Germany announces military aid package for Ukraine

3 In $ billion. Germany will provide Ukraine with military aid, including tanks, anti-aircraft systems and ammunition, according to the government. The announcement came before President Zelenskyy's visit to Germany. AP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The nutritional value of millets

Why are millets popular sources of nutrition? What are the different parts of a millet kernel? How are nutrients in millets affected by processing and polishing? Can millets thrive in harsh, resource-poor conditions?

EXPLAINER

Vasudevan Mukunth

The story so far:
The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has declared 2023 to be the 'International Year of Millets', giving these crops a shot in the arm even as countries worldwide are looking to them for their ability to grow in environmental conditions that the climate crisis is rendering more common. Millets are becoming more popular in India as well because of their low input requirements and high nutritional density, both of which are valuable for a country whose food security is expected to face significant challenges in the coming decades. However, the consumption of millets face one threat that has already overtaken India's major food crops – grain-processing.

What are millets?
Millets are fundamentally grasses. They are cultivated worldwide, but especially in the tropical parts of Africa and Asia, as cereal crops. Some of the more common varieties include pearl millet (*Cenchrus americanus*), barnyard millet (*Echinochloa utilis*), finger millet (*Eleusine coracana*), and foxtail millet (*Setaria italica*).

There is both palaeontological and textual evidence to indicate that millets were being cultivated in the Indian subcontinent five millennia ago. According to the Agricultural and Processed Foods Development Authority, India is the world's largest producer of millets. In 2021-2022, the country accounted for 40.51% of the world's pearl millet production and 8.09% of sorghum. Within the country, pearl millet made up 60% of all the millet production, sorghum 27%, and ragi 11%.

Sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor*), adlay millet (*Coix lacryma-jobi*), and teff (*Eragrostis tef*), among others, are grasses that differ in some respects from millets but are grouped together with them.

Why are they sought after?
Millets have two broad features that render them attractive – their nutritional value being comparable to that of major extant food crops (and better on some counts) and their ability to reliably withstand harsh, resource-poor conditions.

They are drought-tolerant, adapted to growing in warm weather, and require low moisture (axiomatically, they are particularly efficient consumers of water) and loamy soil. They don't grow well in water-logged or extremely dry soil which might occur after heavy rainfall or particularly bad droughts, respectively. Nonetheless, millets have the upper hand over crops like rice and maize with more drought-like conditions expected in many parts of the world, including the newly realised prospect of 'flash droughts'. That being said, millets don't abhor better growing conditions, and respond positively to higher moisture and nutrient content in the soil.

According to the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, millets also "thrive on marginal land in upland and hilly regions"; marginal land is land whose rent is higher than the value of crops that can be cultivated there.

Are millets nutritious?
The nutritional content of millets include carbohydrates, proteins, fibre, amino acids, and various minerals. Different millet varieties have different nutrient profiles. For example, pearl millet – one of the oldest cultivated varieties – has been found to have higher protein content than rice, maize, and sorghum, while being comparable to that of barley. According to various studies, foxtail millet is rich in the amino acid lysine; finger millet has more crude fibre than wheat and rice; proso millet has a significant amount of the amino acids leucine, isoleucine, and methionine; and overall, millets have been found to be important sources of micronutrients and phytochemicals.

In abundance: A farmer swats away preying birds around a millet farm at Moinabad in Telangana on the outskirts of Hyderabad on April 22. NAGARA GOPAL

The makeup of millets compared to major extant crops

A February 2022 study summarised the nutritive contents of millets, relative to rice, wheat, and maize, as follows:

- The nutritional content of millets include carbohydrates, proteins, fibre, amino acids, and minerals
- The UN FAO has declared 2023 to be the 'International Year of Millets'.

Where are the nutrients stored?
According to a paper published in 2021 in the journal *Agriculture & Food Security*, each millet kernel consists of three major parts, called pericarp, endosperm, and germ. The pericarp has an outer covering called the husk. The husk and the pericarp together protect the kernel from inhospitable conditions, disease, and physical damage.

The endosperm is the largest part of the kernel and its 'storage' centre. It has a protein covering called the aleurone. According to an FAO article about sorghum, the endosperm is "relatively poor in mineral matter, ash and oil content" but "a major contributor to the kernel's protein (80%), starch (94%) and B-complex vitamins (50-75%)". Similarly, pearl millet has a relatively larger germ, which is "rich in oil (32%), protein (19%) and ash (10.4%)," plus "over 72% of the total mineral matter".

This is why, according to various experts, millets deserve to be included in people's diets. But whether they're actually included depends on the availability of "delicious products to satisfy the taste, providing knowledge on nutritional and health facts on millets, and improving accessibility," as per a 2021 study.

How does processing affect the nutrients?
Processing and preparing millets for consumption can affect nutrients in three ways – enhance them, suppress/remove them, and ignore them. In this context, 'whole grain' refers to the endosperm, germ, and bran (pericarp + aleurone) whereas 'refined grain' refers only to the endosperm.

The husk is removed from the grains because it is composed of cellulosic matter that the human body cannot digest. But at least one study has found that when this is done to pearl millets, their phytic acid and polyphenol contents drop. (On the other hand, a paper published in 2021 found that millet husk could be briquetted and used as household fuel, and potentially alleviate energy poverty in north Nigeria.)

The second common step is to decorticate the grain, that is, remove any other outer covering and expose the seed. While studies have found that mechanical and hand-worked decortication did not have significant effects on the grain, they both removed crude and dietary fibre. But decortication also makes the grain more edible and visually attractive, which are favourable factors when marketing them to urban centres.

The typical next steps are milling, to grind the grains into flour, and sieving to remove large 'impurities', including bran. One 2012 study of finger millet found that whole-flour had a high content of "total polyphenols and flavonoids" while sieving made the flour more digestible and its nutrients more accessible to the body. However, it also reduced nutrient content due to the loss of bran.

On the other hand, according to the February 2022 study, germination and fermentation – in which the grains are soaked in water for an extended duration – "showed a positive improvement in the overall nutritional characteristics of millets".

What is the effect of polishing?
A frequent last step is polishing.

The longer the grains were milled, the more protein, fat, and fibre contents the process removed. A different 2012 study found that barnyard millet could be polished with a rice polisher for up to three minutes without significant nutrient loss. Polishing is the process whereby brown rice, for example, is changed to white rice by rubbing off the bran and the germ.

A 2012 study in the *Journal of Cereal Science* assessed the effects of polishing in the nutritive value of two major Asian rice varieties – indica and japonica. Using a combination of precision abrasive polishing, plasma mass spectrometry, and fluorescence microscopy, they found that polishing removed 8-10% of grain weight and also removed 60-80% of iron, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, and manganese in both varieties. The loss of bran also compromised the grains' fibre content. Yet rice polishing is considered desirable because, as per a 2009 study, most consumers favour the resulting taste and texture and prefer the shorter cooking time, and retailers want longer shelf-life, which can be achieved by removing the bran.

THE GIST

Millets are fundamentally grasses. They are cultivated worldwide, but especially in the tropical parts of Africa and Asia, as cereal crops. Some of the more common varieties include pearl millet (*Cenchrus americanus*), barnyard millet (*Echinochloa utilis*), finger millet (*Eleusine coracana*), and foxtail millet (*Setaria italica*).

Millets have two broad features that render them attractive — their nutritional value being comparable to that of major extant food crops (and better on some counts) and their ability to reliably withstand harsh, resource-poor conditions.

Processing and preparing millets for consumption can affect nutrients in three ways — enhance them, suppress/remove them, and ignore them.

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In city, maintaining winning margins is quite a task for MLAs

When the polling results from 2008 to 2023 are compared, it becomes clear that for a city which re-elects most of its MLAs, quite a few elected representatives have had trouble in improving their victory margins

Victory margins of MLAs who have been elected multiple times

Candidate	Constituency	2008	2013	2018	2023
Ramalinga Reddy	B.T.M. Layout	1,857	49,048	20,478	9,222
K.J. George	Sarvagnanagar	22,608	22,853	53,304	55,678
Dinesh Gundu Rao	Gandhinagar	6,946	22,607	10,070	105
Krisha Byre Gowda	Byatarayanapura	9,352	32,400	5,671	38,204
S. Suresh Kumar	Rajajinagar	14,660	14,767	9,453	8,060
S. Raghu	C.V. Raman Nagar	16,655	8,419	12,227	16,395
B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan	Chamarajpet	19,590	30,162	33,137	53,953
S. R. Vishwanath	Yelahanka	16,022	18,397	42,503	63,778

2008	
HIGHEST MARGIN	**34,135** (Bangalore South)
Winner	M. Krishnappa (BJP)
Runner-up	Sadananda M. (Congress)
LOWEST MARGIN	**1,082** (Yeshwantpur)
Winner	Shobha Karandlaje (BJP)
Runner-up	S.T. Somashekar (Congress)

2013	
HIGHEST MARGIN	**49,048** (BTM Layout)
Winner	Ramalinga Reddy (Congress)
Runner-up	N. Sudhakar (BJP)
LOWEST MARGIN	**6,149** (Mahadevapura)
Winner	Aravind Limbavali (BJP)
Runner-up	A.C. Srinivas (Congress)

2018	
HIGHEST MARGIN	**81,626** (Pulikeshinagar)
Winner	Akhanda Srinivas Murthy (Congress)
Runner-up	B. Prasanna Kumar (JDS)
LOWEST MARGIN	**5,671** (Byatarayanapura)
Winner	Krishna Byre Gowda (Congress)
Runner-up	A. Ravi (BJP)

2023	
HIGHEST MARGIN	**63,378** (Yelahanka)
Winner	S.R. Vishwanath (BJP)
Runner-up	Keshav Rajanna (Congress)
LOWEST MARGIN	**16** (Jayanagar)
Winner	C.K. Krishnamurthy (BJP)
Runner-up	Sowmya Reddy (Congress)

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Senior leader of the Congress Dinesh Gundu Rao secured a narrow victory this time against the Bharatiya Janata Party's Sapthagiri Gowda in Gandhinagar constituency, the margin a mere 105 votes.

In Jayanagar, C.K. Ramamurthy of the BJP, after a dramatic turn of events, beat the Congress' Sowmya Reddy by just 16 votes, and it is a controversy still raging.

Mr. Rao won by a fairly larger margin of 22,607 votes in 2013. Eventually, the margin came down to a little over 10,000 in 2018.

According to Mr. Gowda, the eventual catching up of the anti-incumbency wave was what led to the narrow victory margin in the constituency.

"Mr. Rao is highly dependent on the votes from slums and this time, even they did not vote for him much as he had not done any work for their benefit. While I could not reach out to the people as effectively as last time (as ticket was given later), this time I was with the people for five whole years. I even worked with them during the pandemic. With an effective campaign strategy, we were able to convert votes. At the end of the day, the Congress wave was stronger and despite that, catching up so closely with them was a good thing," Mr. Gowda explained.

Congress supporters celebrating their party's victory in the Assembly elections in Bengaluru. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

When the polling results from 2008 to 2023 are compared, it becomes clear that for a city which re-elects most of its MLAs, quite a few elected representatives have had trouble in improving their victory margins.

Narrow victories with a difference of less than 1,000 votes was not seen in Bengaluru in the previous three elections.

Ms. Reddy's father and the senior Congress leader Ramalinga Reddy previously secured his seat in B.T.M. Layout constituency, with a margin of 1,857 votes in 2008, while current Union Minister and the BJP leader Shobha Karandlaje won by 1,082 votes in Yeshwanthpur that year. After that, closer margins were not seen in the next two elections.

Coming to bigger margins, this year Yelahanka's BJP MLA S.R. Vishwanath won by 63,378 votes. In the previous elections, Akhanda Srinivasamurthy, who had contested in Pulikeshinagar from the Congress, had won by a whopping 81,626 votes.

However, this year, after being denied a ticket from the party, he contested on a BSP ticket and lost to the Congress candidate A.C. Srinivas by a huge margin of 62,210 votes.

However, some leaders like Ravi Subramanya in Basavanagudi, M. Krishnappa from Bangalore South, B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan from Chamarajpet, K.J. George from Sarvagnanagar, and S.R. Vishwanath from Yelahanka constituency have managed to consistently increase their margins since 2008 (after delimitation).

K. Gopalaiah, who contested Mahalakshmi Layout from 2013, also had a good run with victory margins.

On the other side, some popular leaders, including Mr. Reddy, Krishna Byre Gowda from the Congress, and S. Raghu and Satish Reddy M. from the BJP, are amongst the leaders who have not been able to maintain consistency in their margins.

Jayanagar poll result: Sowmya Reddy seeks support to fight 'injustice'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Jayanagar election result controversy continued to rage on a day later, as the former MLA Sowmya Reddy, who lost by a slim margin to the BJP candidate, sought "continued support" to fight the injustice of "foul play".

On Saturday, after multiple rounds of counting and examination of votes, at midnight it was declared that the BJP candidate C.K. Ramamurthy defeated Ms. Reddy of the Congress by 16 votes.

The Congress had accused the officials of "twisting" the results by considering the postal ballots which were initially rejected.

Ms. Reddy reached out to the party workers and the public through a social media post on Twitter.

"Grateful for all my people of Jayangar who voted for me and the INC Karnataka cadre and leaders who had my back throughout. Thanks to thousands of you who have showed solidarity. I plead for your continued support to fight this injustice of foul play in the Jayanagar elections."

Meanwhile, the BJP's Tejasvi Surya, MP of Bengaluru South, tweeted that Mr. Ramamurthy has "reclaimed the constituency in a befitting tribute to late B.N. Vijayakumar."

On Sunday, the newly elected MLA with other leaders of the party met relatives of the late B.N. Vijayakumar.

All eyes on manifesto promises for city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After receiving a clear mandate to form the government in Karnataka, national president of the Congress M. Mallikarjun Kharge, while addressing the media on Saturday, said that the future government will start implementing the promises made in the manifesto from the first Cabinet meeting itself.

In the manifesto, released prior to the elections, the party had many big promises for Bengalureans.

Prominent among the assurances are bringing a comprehensive legislation for the management of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). If one goes by the manifesto, the BBMP will play a larger role in the coming days.

As to the question of whether the party is planning to bring the BWSSB, the BMTC, and other agencies under the BBMP, the answer will be known only after the government introduces a Bill.

The manifesto mentions implementing controversial elevated flyovers to ease the traffic. This project was proposed by successive governments, but opposition from various quarters resulted in it remaining on paper.

Impetus to implement the pending metro projects (phase II and phase II A&B) within three years coming to power and completing phase III and IV in the next five years are also mentioned.

One of the highlights of the manifesto is extending Namma Metro to the Vasantha Narasapura industrial hub in Tumakuru.

The manifesto mentions fancy projects that include building tunnel roads in CBD areas under the PPP model. Only time will tell if its a feasible option.

Other highlights of the manifesto include rejuvenating the Vrushabhavathi, a separate authority for parks and recreation spaces, integration of various modes of transport such as metro, suburban rail, and other transport systems named after Puttanna Chetty, opening of a mini theater, museum of freedom fighters, and others.

Another bitter bone of contention - the Congress' ambitious project, the Indira Canteens - also finds a mention for revival.

To decongest traffic, 5,000 new electric buses will be added into the fleet of the BMTC.

The Congress had also announced in its manifesto that the "Bhagidari" scheme will be launched in the city in which development initiatives will be discussed with RWA in every ward.

Promises in the Congress manifesto for Bengaluru

- A comprehensive legislation for exclusive management of the BBMP
- Building elevated flyovers to decongest traffic
- Extending Cauvery water supply to all parts of the city
- Expediting ongoing metro projects, extending Namma Metro project to Tumakuru's Vasanta Narasapura industrial hub
- Establishment of Mega Bengaluru Planning Committee
- Building tunnel roads in CBD to decongest traffic on PPP model
- Integration of suburban, metro and transport systems
- Making Indira Canteen more functional
- 5,000 electric buses to BMTC

Timings
BENGALURU

MONDAY, MAY. 15
RISE 05:55 SET 18:38
RISE 02:38 SET 14:53

TUESDAY, MAY. 16
RISE 05:54 SET 18:38
RISE 03:19 SET 15:46

WEDNESDAY, MAY. 17
RISE 05:54 SET 18:38
RISE 03:59 SET 16:39

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	35	27
Mysuru	33	24
Bengaluru	31	23

Bengaluru Today
33°C The weather will be warm and humid. Night also will be pleasant. Short spell of light rain and thundershower with gusty winds will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
33°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm but humid. Night will be pleasant. Thunderstorm may occur.

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CBSE exam: THiS institutions excel

Sudhindr A.B.
BENGALURU

Students of schools part of The Hindu in School (THiS) programme performed well in the CBSE examination. The results were declared on Friday..

Kendriya Vidyalaya, IISc, achieved 100% pass results, with 79 students passing in Science in the Class 12 examination. In all, 11 students scored 90%. Chinmayee Shree M. with 95.8% was the topper.

In Kendriya Vidyalaya, DRDO, 123 appeared and 121 passed in the Class 12 examination. Shweta Agarwala with 96.8% emerged topper.

In Class 10, all 169 students passed. Gullapalli Sree Yasasvi (479 marks) was topper.

In Dev In National Public School, Sahakaranagar, all 48 students passed with first class for the second consecutive year in the Class 12 examination. Alok Naik with 491 marks was the topper.

In Venkat International Public School, Rajajinagar, 328 students appeared and 162 secured distinction in Class 10. A.B. Sharvesh with 489 marks was the topper.

In Class 12, 111 appeared and 63 secured distinction. In Science, Yukta Ashok (482 marks) and in Commerce, Apoorva Joshi (489 marks) were the toppers.

City students fare well in ICSE and ISC exams

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru students registered 99.6% and 98.58% pass percentage in the ICSE and ISC examination results, respectively, which were announced on Sunday.

While a total of 25,646 students (12,976 boys and 12,670 girls) from 399 schools took the ICSE (Class X) exam, a total of 2,250 students (1,043 boys and 1,207 girls) from 46 schools wrote the ISC (Class XII) exam. Girls performed better than boys in both the examinations.

In the ICSE examination, Annanya Karthik, a student from Vidyaniketan school in Hebbal, was among the nine students who secured the first rank (99.8%) nationally.

Sebanti Hui from Greenwood High and (right) Anandita David from Mallya Aditi International School scored 99.25% and figured on the ISC toppers' list at the State level.

Apart from her, Akshaya Sutrave from Vibgyor High in Varthur and Anondee Saha from Greenwood High secured the second spots (99.6%) at the State level.

"I made sure to study consistently throughout the year and attain good marks in each of my school examinations. Before the boards, my school had given all students a month to study, and I tried my best to study 8-9 hours every day. I relied on studying each subject at least twice during this period, and went through the past years' question papers and extra questions that my teachers had sent," said Ms. Saha. She said that she would like to pursue research work in Mathematics in the future.

While a total of 25,646 students took the ICSE examination, 2,250 wrote the ISC exam

In the ISC exam, Anandita David from Mallya Aditi International School and Sebanti Hui from Greenwood High figured on the toppers' list (99.25%) at the State level.

Ms. David mentioned that she used different sources of information for her study sessions and practised extensive revision. She also said that she would like to pursue BBA in General Management from FLAME University.

Ms. Hui, on the other hand, would like to become a professor of English literature.

Speaking about her study sessions, she said, "I studied for around 8-10 hours on non-school days and for 3-4 hours on school days. The biggest factor in my studies has probably been my note-taking. I always convert the chapters which I've learned into detailed and intricate notes which I refer to before my exams."

BMTC bus rams car

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Motorists at the Corporation Circle had a narrow escape when a BMTC bus heading towards the city market rammed a car and an autorickshaw on Sunday morning.

The bus was going from Shivajinagar to Taverekere. One person was injured in the accident and the car and the autorickshaw were damaged.

The passengers in the vehicles escaped narrowly.

THE HINDU
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Man killed by relative as poll celebrations take ugly turn

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 56-year-old man was hacked to death allegedly by his relative, during election-related celebrations in D. Hosahalli on Saturday night. The deceased has been identified as Krishnappa. His wife Gangamma and his son Babu, who were also attacked, have been admitted to the hospital and are being treated, said the police.

The Hoskote police arrested Aditya, 21, nephew of the deceased, charging him with the murder, while his father Ganesh managed to escape. Efforts are on to track him down, the police said.

Property dispute

According to the police, Mr. Krishnappa and Mr. Ganesh are brothers and allegedly nurtured grudges over a property dispute.

On Saturday, the accused were celebrating the victory of the Congress candidate and burst crackers in front of Mr. Krishnappa, who supported the ruling party and objected to the ruckus in front of his house, said the police.

Heated arguments ensued, which took an ugly turn, when Aditya, in a fit of rage, attacked Mr. Krishnappa with an axe, the police added.

Ms. Gangamma and Babu rushed to his aid, but were also attacked and severely injured. The others rushed the trio to a nearby hospital where Mr. Krishnappa was declared as brought dead, said the police.

Tension gripped D. Hosahalli for sometime and police personnel were deployed in the area to the monitor law and order.

Cab driver killed, four injured in accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 36-year-old cab driver was killed and his four friends injured when their SUV rammed a divider and overturned, after the driver lost control, on Devanahalli main road on Saturday night. The deceased has been identified as Muralidhar, a resident of Bilishivale.

According to the police, the victims were friends and heading for a joyride towards Devanahalli. The car was allegedly being driven in a rash manner and the driver lost control, rammed the vehicle into the divider and it turned turtle on the other side of the road.

Owing to the impact, the car was mangled and passers-by pulled out the injured and shifted them to the hospital.

While Mr. Muralidhar was declared brought dead at the hospital, his four friends were being treated at the hospital and are said to be out of danger, the police said.

The Devanahalli traffic police have registered a case and are investigating.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

GATISHAKTI UNIT / TIRUCHCHIRAPPALLI DIVISION

E-Tender Notice No. GS-TPJ-10-2023 Dated: 12.05.2023

For and on behalf of the President of India, Chief Project Manager / Gatishakti Unit / Tiruchchirappalli invites ONLINE tenders for the following works.

Item No.	Tender No.	Name of the works
1	GS-TPJ-10-2023-01	Civil works related to Up-gradation of **Karaikkal** (KIK) Railway Junction under "Amrit Bharat Station Scheme"
2	GS-TPJ-10-2023-02	Civil works related to Up-gradation of **Mayiladuturai Jn.** (MV) Railway Junction under "Amrit Bharat Station Scheme"
3	GS-TPJ-10-2023-03	Electrical works related to Up-gradation of **Karaikkal** (KIK) Railway Junction under "Amrit Bharat Station Scheme"
4	GS-TPJ-10-2023-04	Electrical works related to Up-gradation of **Mayiladuturai Jn.** (MV) Railway Junction under "Amrit Bharat Station Scheme"

Item No.	Tender No.	Cash value (in ₹)	Validity offer	Closing Date & Time	Period of completion (in months)
1	GS-TPJ-10-2023-01	4,66,62,802.60	60 days	02.06.2023 11.00 hrs.	7 months
2	GS-TPJ-10-2023-02	7,63,29,578.56	60 days	05.06.2023 11.00 hrs.	8 months
3	GS-TPJ-10-2023-03	66,06,657.00	60 days	05.06.2023 11.00 hrs.	7 months
4	GS-TPJ-10-2023-04	1,26,63,708.00	60 days	05.06.2023 11.00 hrs.	8 months

If the date of opening of tenders happens to be a declared holiday at a later date, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at the stipulated time.

The detailed Tender Notices, Tender document along with terms & conditions and if any corrigendum to tenders issued, can be accessed through **https://www.ireps.gov.in**

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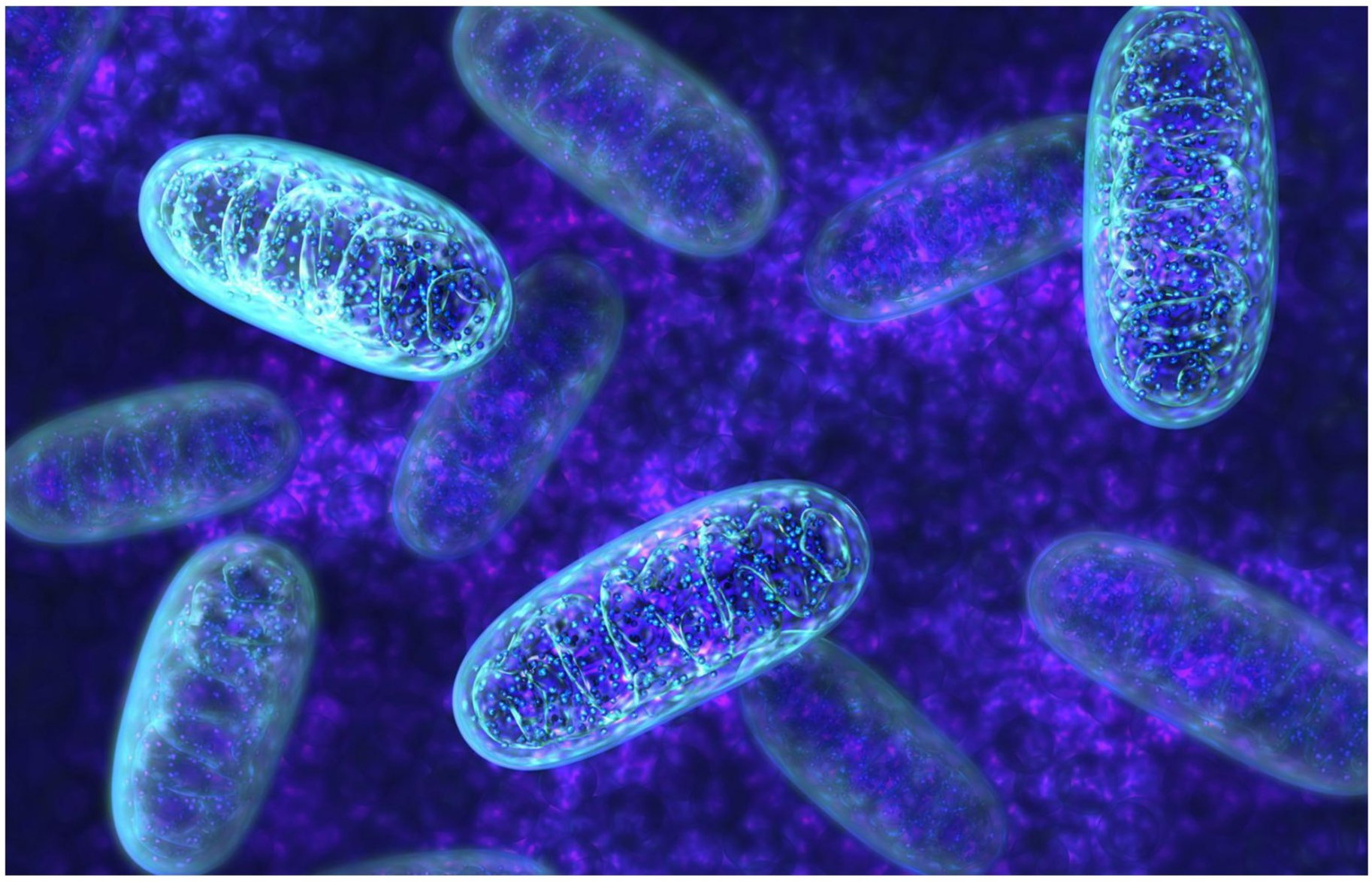
Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

PULSE-CHECK



A 3D illustration of Mitochondria. ISTOCKPHOTO

Explaining mitochondrial donation treatment: how a baby has three parents

MDT is the process through which an egg, which has the genetic material (DNA) from the parents, and mitochondria from a selected female donor, is implanted in the uterus, and carried to full term to yield a baby, free of any mitochondrial disease

Ramya Kannan

The announcement that a baby was born using three persons' DNA in the U. K. on Thursday caused the stir that news of this kind was expected to evoke. The baby, technically, has three parents, deriving the mitochondria from a donor apart from the genetic material (DNA) from biological parents. Pioneering technology was used to facilitate this, in order to prevent the child from inheriting the mother's mitochondrial disease.

Why did the baby need 'three parents'?

The baby carried most of its DNA from its parents, and a minor per cent from the donor, whose mitochondria has been used while fertilising the egg.

Mitochondria are basically the powerhouses of the cells. They generate energy, and thus are also responsible for cell function in the human body. Certain defects might occur impacting the way the mitochondria produces energy for the cells (especially in the 'energy-hungry' tissues of the brain, nerves, muscles, kidneys, heart, liver), and thereby impacting cell function. The diseases that arise out of such mitochondrial mutations are called mitochondrial diseases. When the mitochondria are impaired and do not produce sufficient energy, it affects how organs function, leading to a broad assortment of symptoms across the body, including brain damage, organ failure and muscle wastage. The symptoms get more and more debilitating as a child grows, and have no cure, but can be treated. Some estimates put the incidence of mitochondrial diseases as one in 5,000 people.

In this case, the mother had a mitochondrial disease she was intent on not passing on to her baby. She also did not want to have a donor egg, for the baby would carry the genetic material of the donor.

What is the scientific process?

Mitochondrial diseases are only passed on by the mother, and research has been attempting to find a way for protecting the infant from inheriting the disease. Here, through an advanced in vitro fertilisation technique developed and refined by the Newcastle Fertility Clinic, the baby's biological father's sperm was used to fertilise the eggs from the biological mother, who has a mitochondrial disease, and a third, female donor with clear mitochondria, separately.

Then, the nuclear genetic material from the donor's egg is removed and replaced with the genetic material from the biological parents'. The final product – the egg – which has the genetic material (DNA) from the parents, and the mitochondria from the female donor, is implanted in the uterus, and carried to full term to yield a baby who will be free from the mother's mitochondrial disease. This process is termed Mitochondrial Donation Treatment (MDT).

Priya Selvaraj, Scientific and Clinical Head, GG Hospitals, Chennai, an IVF centre, says: "If we are talking about inheriting genetic mitochondrial diseases then it's maternal. That's why this particular technique is of relevance. This is specifically only for couples who wish to have their genetic child and are not okay with using a donor egg. With this special process, the final cytoplasm (which holds the genetic material and mitochondria) has healthy mitochondria while the genetic material belongs to the biological parents."

Is there a law to facilitate MDT?

The Guardian reported that "research on MDT, which is also known as mitochondrial replacement therapy (MRT), was pioneered in the U. K. by doctors at the Newcastle Fertility Centre.... to help women with mutated mitochondria to have babies without the risk of passing on genetic disorders."

The progress in research led the U. K. government to amend the law allowing the procedure in 2015. It was further added that it was two years later that the Newcastle clinic became the first centre to get a licence to perform it, and the first few cases were approved in 2018.

"Approval is given on a case-by-case basis by the U. K.'s Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), which has given the green light for at least 30 cases," the paper said. While details of the cases were not revealed to the media to protect the identity of the patients, a freedom of information application by *The Guardian* revealed that there were "less than five cases".

The *Newscientist* reported in 2016 of a Jordanian baby born of 'three parents', with a technique employed by the team led by John Zhang at New Hope Fertility Centre in New York, but working in Mexico.

Are there any side effects to the procedure?

The Guardian, quoting a Pubmed article from February this year, has mentioned that sometimes it is possible that a small amount of the maternal mitochondria with errors may get passed on during the procedure. Dr. Sevaraj makes the case for more information on the process itself, "while largely helpful, the procedure is not without these minimal risks. As for the process, they use terms such as reversion or reversal and it's inexplicable as of now. More published data is needed to establish consensus."

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

May 14 marked the birth centenary of Mrinal Sen. A quiz on the career of one of India's greatest filmmakers, who was part of a triumvirate that also had Ray and Ghatak

V.V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1

Mrinal's first feature film was the romantic drama *Raat Bhore* released in 1955. Which other icon of Bengal cinema also debuted in that film?

QUESTION 2

Name his third film (a particular date in the Bengali calendar), set against the backdrop of WWII and the famine of West Bengal, that brought international repute to Sen. Why is the date famous otherwise?

QUESTION 3

Which are the other two films considered part of Mrinal's 'Calcutta trilogy' if *Calcutta 71* is one of them?

QUESTION 4

Name the acclaimed 1969 work, in which Amitabh Bachchan debuted as a voice-over narrator, that earned three National awards.

QUESTION 5

What was the subject of his 1967 documentary *Moving Perspectives?*

QUESTION 6

What was the Bengali name of the acclaimed film that opened with this title card when shown to western audiences: 7 September 1980. A group from Calcutta — a film crew — travels to a village to shoot a film. The village is called Hatui. The name of the film *In Search of Famine*?

QUESTION 7

Name the eatery in Kolkata where, in the 1960s, Sen, Salil Chowdhury, Ritwik Ghatak, and Hrishikesh Mukherjee would have 'addas'.

Visual question:
Name this 1983 film that won a Jury Prize at the 1983 Cannes Film Festival. FILE PHOTO

Questions and Answers to the May 12 edition of the daily quiz: 1. Tarantino played this character in *Pulp Fiction*. **Ans: Jimmie Dimmick**
2. James Dean, Marilyn Monroe, Buddy Holly, Mamie Van Doren, Grace Kelly. Name the odd one out. **Ans: No one was dressed as Grace Kelly**
3. Mia Wallace speaks of this failed pilot show to Vega. **Ans: Fox Force Five**
4. The code Vega uses to open the briefcase in the movie. **Ans: 666**
5. The Bible verse that Jules recites makes an appearance in this movie from Marvel. **Ans: *Captain America: The Winter Soldier***
6. The writer of the song 'Girl, You'll Be a Woman Soon'. **Ans: Neil Diamond**
Visual: The number of Oscars *Pulp Fiction* was nominated for and won. This actor received his only oscar nomination for *Pulp Fiction*. **Ans: Seven nominations and one win; Samuel. L. Jackson**
Early Birds: K. N. Viswanathan| Vaibhav Jain| Kumar Saurav| Sachin

KNOW YOUR ENGLISH

He prostrated himself before his teachers

He took everyone who had come to a gourmet cafe but they did not particularly enjoy the food

S. Upendran

What is the difference between 'kowtow' and 'prostrate'? (R. Sivakumar, Chennai)

First, let us deal with the pronunciation of 'kowtow'. The two syllables rhyme with 'how', 'cow and 'now'; the word is pronounced 'cow-TOW' with the stress on the second syllable. It comes from the Chinese 'k'o-t'ou' meaning 'knock the head'. When you 'kowtow', you go down on your knees and touch the ground/floor with your forehead. The common man in China used to show his respect to those in power by performing this act. Nowadays, in everyday conversation, 'kowtow' is mostly used as a verb. When you accuse someone of 'kowtowing' to their boss, what you are suggesting is that he is a pushover – he shows too much respect for the person in power, does what he has been asked to without raising any questions.

The Management is unlikely to kowtow to our demands.

'Prostrate' is what most men do when they visit a temple. When you 'prostrate', you lie flat on the ground, face down, with your arms stretched out. Unlike in the case of 'kowtow', the entire front portion of the body is in contact with the ground. The word comes from the Latin 'prostratus' meaning 'thrown down'. Like 'kowtow', you usually 'prostrate' to someone in order to show your respect for the individual. 'Prostrate', like 'kowtow', has a figurative meaning; when used as a verb, it means helpless or defenceless. If you are 'prostrate with grief', you are so overwhelmed that you are incapable of doing anything.

Tina was prostrate with grief after failing the test.

How is the word 'gourmet' pronounced? (Anu Mittal, Gurgoan)

There seem to be different ways of pronouncing this word. I will deal with only two here. The British tend to rhyme the first syllable (gour) with words like 'sure', 'cure' and 'poor', while the Americans tend to pronounce the 'ou' like the 'oo' in 'pool', 'fool', and 'tool'. Both pronounce the second syllable like the word 'may'. The word, which comes from the Old French 'groume' meaning 'wine taster', can be pronounced 'GUE-may' or 'GUUR-may'. In both cases, the stress is on the first syllable. A 'gourmet' is a foodie, but unlike the ordinary foodie who enjoys eating just about anything, this individual mostly focuses on high quality food; he is not someone who is easily pleased. Books suggest that this individual is not only a connoisseur of good food, but also of vintage wines.

He's a gourmet, and insists on ordering the food.

upendrankye@gmail.com

Word of the day

Unctuous:
unpleasantly and excessively suave or ingratiating in manner or speech

Synonyms: soapy, smarmy, buttery, oily, oleaginous, fulsome

Usage: *His unctuous conduct did not sit well with the manager.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/unctuouspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈʌŋ(k)ʧʊəs/, /-tjʊəs/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Intense lobbying for Chief Minister's post in Congress with caste factors coming into play

Minutes before the legislature party meeting was held, two prominent Vokkaliga community seers openly called for Shivakumar to be elected as Chief Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Backing them: Supporters of KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar and those of former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah outside the venue of the Congress Legislature Party meeting in Bengaluru on Sunday. SUDHAKARA JAIN AND PTI

The run-up to the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting on Sunday evening was marked by intense lobbying by the former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president D.K. Shivakumar in a bid to be chosen as Chief Minister of the State. The two leaders had put up a united front during the campaign for the Assembly polls. They had admitted that both were aspirants for the post, but that the party high command would finally take a call.

Calls to MLAs

Multiple MLAs in the party said the two leaders began making calls to them even before the results were declared on Saturday, appealing to them to support them in the CLP meeting. On Saturday, while Mr. Shivakumar had been on a whirlwind tour of several mutts and expressed his desire to be the Chief Minister, Mr. Siddaramaiah, who returned to the city from his constituency on Saturday night, maintained a low profile and had several MLAs-elect visiting him at his residence.

Even minutes before the CLP meeting, Mr. Siddaramaiah was at senior leader K.J. George's house making last-minute calls. Mr. Shivakumar was also busy making last-minute appeals. Shangri-La hotel, where the CLP meeting was being held, was surrounded by thousands of Congress supporters raising slogans on behalf of Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar.

The lobbying acquired clear caste hues as minutes before the CLP meeting, two prominent Vokkaliga seers openly batted for Mr. Shivakumar to be elected as the next Chief Minister of the State.

"It is a tradition that whoever is the president of the party is also given the responsibility to lead the State when the party comes to power. Now that Mr. Shivakumar has helped the Congress come to power in the State, we appeal to the party to follow the same principle now. He is eligible to lead the State in every way. He is from our Vokkaliga community, and since he has brought the party to power, we request all Congress leaders to provide an opportunity to Mr. Shivakumar," said Nirmalanandanatha Swami, adding Mr. Shivakumar should be rewarded for the hard work he has put in.

By rotation?

Sources in the party said the high command and many State leaders not aligned to either camp were keen that there was no voting to elect the Chief Minister, as this would lead to factionalism in the party. "We are trying to broker a power-sharing arrangement between the two leaders to avoid conflict," a senior Congress MLA said. Sources said making Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar Chief Ministers by rotation was being discussed, even as the two leaders seem to be adamant about a full term.

Caste calculations

Those in favour of Mr. Shivakumar have argued that the vote share of the Congress going up in the Vokkaliga bastion had to be credited to the leader. However, the counter-argument is that Congress has got wide support from various communities. The spike in the vote share in Bombay Karnataka and Central Karnataka by 5.9 percentage points indicates Lingayat support, while a majority of SC/ST seats are won by the Congress this time. There is also significant support by OBCs and consolidation of Muslim votes, a senior Congress leader said.

The nature of the mandate the party has got has created an uphill task for the Congress high command to not only choose the next Chief Minister but also ensure that all communities that supported the party are placated in the power-sharing process. "There is a proposal to create multiple Deputy Chief Minister posts to accommodate and distribute power to various communities such as Lingayats, Dalits, and maybe even Muslims and, in case Mr. Shivakumar is not made the Chief Minister, to Vokkaligas," a senior leader said.

On the draw

BJP to look into reasons for defeat; flags Congress guarantees, changed caste equations

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Shocked by the miserable defeat in the Karnataka Assembly elections, the Bharatiya Janata Party is set to hold State-level and Assembly constituency-level meetings of its candidates and leaders to decipher the reasons for its loss.

BJP State president Nalin Kumar Kateel told media persons in Bengaluru on Sunday that the meeting would be held within a few days and appealed to party workers to analyse the reasons for the debacle and also prepare for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Meanwhile, an informal meeting of party leaders and a few MLAs-elect was held in Bengaluru on Sunday. According to sources, the opinion expressed was that the manner in which the Congress "guarantees" (prominent poll promises) were reached to people was one of the main reasons for the BJP's defeat, apart from the wave of anti-incumbency.

The Congress announced one guarantee at a time and "guarantee cards" too were reached to people to create awareness about them. "In fact, the guarantees of the Congress were being widely debated even before the party released its formal manifesto," a prominent State leader of the BJP, who participated in the Sunday's meeting, told *The Hindu*.

The meeting also observed that there was a widespread wave of anti-incumbency. It also felt that the SC community rallied behind the Congress because of Dalit leader M. Mallikarjun Kharge's presence while some of these communities, including Banjaras, were up in arms against the BJP as they were not happy with internal reservation among the SCs taken up by the party government.

"Our main support base of Lingayats did not remain intact due to the aggressive campaign by the Congress over the alleged sidelining of veteran leader B.S. Yediyurappa and not giving the ticket to prominent Lingayat leaders Jagadish Shettar and Laxman Savadi," the leader observed.

This was evident with the defeat of the party's candidates in the Lingayat-dominant areas, he pointed out.

Vokkaliga heartland

Some BJP leaders also felt that aggressive campaign by the party to make inroads into the Vokkaliga-dominated areas of Old Mysore region, where the JD(S) had an influence, worked against the party. Though these efforts helped the BJP snatch some votes from the JD(S), it resulted in the latter losing the battle to the Congress. The seats that could have been won by the JD(S) went to the Congress, they felt.

Bommai front runner for Leader of the Opposition post

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Caretaker Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai is likely to be chosen as the Leader of the Opposition by the BJP, which is expected to hold a legislature party meeting within this week.

Sources in the BJP said Mr. Bommai is the front runner for this post as several prominent leaders have been defeated in the polls. Party central leaders are also expected to attend the legislature party meeting that would be held soon to elect the Leader of the Opposition.

Meanwhile, Mr. Bommai denied the allegation by the Congress that the defeat of the BJP in Karnataka is a defeat of Prime Minister Narendra Modi as he actively campaigned for the party in Karnataka. "How can we even say that as he only came here for the campaign? Going by that logic, the Congress has lost in most of the States. Who has to take responsibility for this?" he asked.

The Chief Minister also congratulated the two chief ministerial aspirants of the Congress, Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar.

BJP draws a blank in ST constituencies

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Despite the BJP government increasing the reservation quota for the Scheduled Tribes from 3% to 7%, the party suffered shocking defeats in the reserved constituencies.

The party drew a blank in all the 15 constituencies reserved for the STs. While 14 seats were won by the Congress, the other seat was won by the Janata Dal (Secular). In fact, Minister B. Sriramulu, who was tipped as the leader of the STs, also lost.

The BJP failed to capitalise on its experiments with the reservation quota to the Scheduled Castes (SCs). While it increased the quota from 15% to 17%, it also announced internal reservation, a long-pending demand from the Dalit left communities. Both ST and SC reservation is yet to receive approval from the Centre. In the 36 reserved constituencies for the SCs, the BJP won 12, down from 16 in 2018, while the Congress improved its tally from 12 in 2018 to 22 this time.

Man who brandished sword arrested

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The police on Sunday arrested a 23-year-old man on the charge of brandishing a sword during the victory procession of BJP leader Basanagouda Patil Yatnal in Vijayapura on Saturday.

Officers of the Gandhi Chowk Police Station arrested Mahesh Kumar, a BJP supporter, on the charge of violation of some sections of the Arms Act.

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34 Veerashaiva-Lingayats from Congress win

This election result has been the best since 1989 for the party; BJP that had 38 Veerashaiava-Lingayat legislators in 2018, now has 18

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

The confusion among the Veerashiava-Lingayats, especially in Kittur Karnataka region, following the exits of Jagadish Shettar and Laxman Savadi weeks before the elections, is being seen as the precipitating factor for the community's perceived shift to Congress from BJP.

For the Congress, this election results has been the best since 1989 when it had 45 Veerashaiva-Lingayat legislators in its landslide victory. This time, as many as 34 Veerashaiva-Lingayats have won on Congress ticket.

Even when the Congress capitalised on the BJP-KJP split in 2013 to form the government, it had 26 Veershaiva-Lingayats in its ranks. In 2018, following its support to a separate Lingayat movement, the number of Veerashaiva-Lingayats elected on the party ticket had come down to 16.

When the treatment meted out to former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, as he was asked to step down in 2021 was still fresh in the memory, the BJP's indifference in the handling of the Lingayat leaders' exit is believed to have riled the community and the religious institutions, alienating them further from the BJP.

The anger it is believed to have spread among the community members across region.

Mr. Savadi's exit, in particular, affected the BJP across a larger geographical area due to the spread of the Ganiga sub-sect of the Lingayats.

The Panchamsali ire over the reservation issue was stark as more than a year-long agitation did not yield any big benefit for the community while the Banajiga sub sect was smarting under the "insult" meted out to its leader Mr. Shettar.

Incidentally, all the three communities are in big number in Belagavi, Bagalkot, Vijayapura, Haveri and Dharwad districts in the Kittur Karnataka region. Interestingly, though Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai belongs to the Sadar sub sect, which is among the politically stronger sub castes, the BJP failed to perform well in Central Karnataka region where the Sadar population is high.

The ire seems to have helped the Congress in Kittur and Central Karnataka regions where it gained 26 seats at the cost of BJP while the gain in Kalyana Karnataka was 10 seats at the cost of BJP. The saffron party that had 38 Veerashaiava-Lingayat legislators in 2018, is now down to 18.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

Forecast for Monday: Heavy to very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Assam and Meghalaya. Thunderstorm with lightning and gusty winds likely at isolated places over Karnataka; with lightning at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Sikkim and Kerala

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	29.7	25.6	Kozhikode	—	37.2	28.0
Ahmedabad	—	43.5	27.7	Kurnool	—	40.6	27.7
Aizawl	—	29.0	18.6	Lucknow	—	40.9	24.2
Allahabad	—	43.0	25.0	Madurai	—	39.8	26.4
Bengaluru	—	32.8	22.3	Mangaluru	7.0	35.0	25.6
Bhopal	—	43.3	27.0	Mumbai	—	34.8	27.0
Bhubaneswar	—	39.4	26.2	Mysuru	—	36.0	21.2
Chandigarh	0.4	39.7	24.6	New Delhi	—	40.8	25.2
Chennai	—	40.7	30.9	Patna	—	39.2	26.2
Coimbatore	—	35.8	25.0	Port Blair	—	31.7	27.3
Dehradun	—	36.9	22.4	Puducherry	—	—	28.8
Gangtok	—	25.3	16.5	Pune	—	38.1	23.3
Goa	—	35.2	27.1	Raipur	—	40.0	22.4
Guwahati	—	33.2	22.8	Ranchi	—	36.6	24.4
Hubballi	—	36.0	22.0	Shillong	—	22.0	16.5
Hyderabad	—	39.7	26.4	Shimla	—	25.0	13.0
Imphal	—	21.2	18.4	Srinagar	4.0	23.2	10.6
Jaipur	—	40.4	31.3	Thiruvananthapuram	8.0	33.3	26.8
Kochi	—	33.0	28.0	Tiruchi	—	39.3	27.0
Kohima	—	22.6	14.2	Vijayawada	—	42.4	27.2
Kolkata	—	35.7	27.3	Visakhapatnam	—	35.3	29.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO₂	NO₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.29	.61	.16	156	116	
Bengaluru	.26	.11	100	52	64	
Chennai	130	.50	.19	52	42	
Delhi	.14	.82	.21	391	—	
Hyderabad	.07	.20	.26	87	108	
Kolkata	.15	.24	.26	62	87	
Lucknow	.08	.80	.31	243	214	
Mumbai	.08	.06	.81	14	22	
Pune	106	140	115	100	68	
Visakhapatnam	.20	.43	.35	106	124	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Rohtak, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 306 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala recorded a healthy AQI score of 16

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information of the general public that my clients Venkatrao Y Ghorpade S/o H.H Late Shri. Yeshwantrao Ghorpade and Gayatri Ghorpade D/o Venkatrao Y Ghorpade have filed a suit in O.S. No. 25958/2017 which is pending on the file of the City Civil Judge, Bangalore claiming partition and separate possession of various properties and other reliefs and particularly **No.20, palace road, Bangalore-560052, previously known as Sandur House, presently Shangri La Hotel.**

The above suit is pending adjudication between all the heirs of H.H Late Shri. Yeshwantrao Ghorpade and Adarsh developers. It has come to the notice of my clients that hasty attempts are being made to alienate or otherwise encumber the property without reference to my clients. Wherefore, the general public are hereby cautioned not to enter into any agreement/ transactions respecting **No.20, palace road, Bangalore-560052, previously known as Sandur House, presently Shangri La Hotel**. Any such transactions entered into will be at their own risk and costs. It is needless to state that such transactions will be subject to lis pendens.

Ajay Govindraj, Advocate, No.101, Ramanashree Chambers, Lady Curzon Road, Bangalore-560001. Ph: 41483633/41600331

Eight seats were decided by wafer-thin margins

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

Providing a nail-biting finish to the high-pitched Assembly elections, Jayanagar constituency, where 16 votes separated the winner and the loser, became a talking point. As many as eight seats were decided by wafer-thin margins of less than 1,000 votes with the Congress and the BJP having five and three victories, respectively.

In the run-up to the elections, observers had pointed out multiple reasons for the contests to heat up resulting in close contests and lower margins. Eventually, Gandhinagar (105 votes), Sringeri (201 votes), Malur (248 votes), and Kumta (676 votes) were among the five constituencies that witnessed close contests apart from Jayanagar. This apart, the BJP also won four constituencies by narrow margins that were between 1,000 votes and 2,000 votes. As many as 42 seats, out of the 224, went to the wires with the outcome decided by less than 5,000 votes. In 2018, in contrast, 30 seats had been decided by votes less than 5,000, including five seats won with a wafer-thin margin of less than 1,000 votes.

Winning margins

Less than 1,000 votes 8	Between 1,000 and 2,000 votes 4
Between 2,000 and 5,000 votes 30	Between 5,000 and 10,000 votes 29
Between 10,000 and 20,000 votes 58	Between 20,000 and 30,000 votes 35
Between 30,000 and 50,000 votes 42	Between 50,000 and one lakh votes 17
Above one lakh votes 1	

In the run-up to the elections, parties had been cagey about the number of closely contested seats, and had worked hard in such places. While Congress had estimated that the contest in about 30 seats could be close, the JD (S) had estimated that to be in about 100 constituencies.

Rebel factor, anti-incumbency, triangular fights, strong candidates, new candidates, local issues, and rights between political families were among those that had made predictions tough.

"The Congress, which had the lowest victory margin on average in 2018, has seen its margins dramatically increase from an average of 15,000 votes to 22,000 votes. On the other hand, the JD(S), which had the highest average margin of 22,000 votes, has seen it decline to 14,000 votes," Venkatesh Thogarighatta, a political consultant, said.

However, the number of constituencies recording margins of less than 10,000 votes has been less than what was reported in 2018. While 80 constituencies had a winning margin of less than 10,000 votes in 2018 as many as 71 seats were decided by that margin this time.

DKS's huge margin

In contrast, KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar was the only candidate to record a winning margin of over one lakh votes. As many as 17 candidates won with a high margin between 50,000 and 1 lakh votes. In the margin between 30,000 votes and 50,000 votes, 42 candidates won.

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Make the right choice

What is the difference between career counselling and career discovery? Why is it important for students to know which one they should opt for?

Vasavi Kandula

Neha recently finished her Chemical Engineering degree from an Australian college and is searching for jobs in Australia that do not require her to work in oil rigs or manufacturing floors. It seems that a software job would be her best option to continue working in Australia and repay her education loan. She wonders why she didn't pursue a different degree, to begin with.

Neha was a bright student who excelled in Chemistry and happened to meet representatives from the Australian college during Class 12. But it took her a couple of years to realise that her strength in Chemistry didn't translate into her enjoying being a Chemical Engineer. Despite not enjoying the course, she completed it as dropping out was not an option.

Neha's younger sister did not want to face a similar situation. So she urged her parents to take her to a career counsellor in high school. The one they met recommended studying in Canada and one university in particular, leaving the family confused about whether to trust the person.

Lack of awareness

Many Indian students face similar situations, as an increasing number of high schoolers are choosing to study abroad for their undergraduate courses. Not all are from metros; students in smaller cities are also exploring foreign options. But, irrespective of their background, many lack awareness of the admission process and requirements.

Colleges abroad, especially the top U.S. colleges, evaluate a student's profile holistically to decide whether to accept or reject a candidate. This is significantly different from India, where the majority, barring a few, rely on standardised tests of achievement to filter students. Key components of a holistic profile include having a narrative explaining why the student wants to study a specific programme or attend a specific university and demonstrating a deeper interest in the chosen area of study.

This is where Career Counselling falls short, as it relies on some form of matching tool based on a psychometric test or conversation with a counsellor. The underlying assumption behind such tools is that the content of a career – the work professionals do, the knowledge and skills they use, and the path to enter that career – is stable and has not changed much in recent years. This is far from the truth.

Parents want the best education for their children through school and college that will lead to high-paying jobs and secure their future forever. However, the world today is increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA). AI is poised to eliminate several lower-end jobs, and even companies generating billions of dollars in profit are downsizing. Future career paths will look quite different from what they are today.

Factors such as tightening immigration laws, the rise of flexible work accelerated by the pandemic, and emerging technologies have significantly changed what is required to enter and excel in different careers. Biologists are writing code, filmmakers are working on NFT projects, and teachers are going viral because of their YouTube videos.

Often the reality of what they do on the job versus what they expected during a career counselling session is significantly different.

Learn from experts

What high schoolers need is this awareness based on interactions with professionals from the field, getting to know about the work environment, understanding the mundane and the exciting part of their dream jobs, and overcoming biases that they may have. This is the essence of the Career Discovery paradigm; high schoolers should spend more time exploring and experiencing careers in the real world.

Career Discovery enables a more holistic approach to the critical decisions that students and parents need to make by exploring different career options, understanding job prospects, and gaining exposure to real-world experiences. Discovering interests, strengths, and passions in high school makes a tremendous difference when choosing the right majors and colleges, gaining the necessary skills, and navigating the uncertainties of an ever-changing world. Career Discovery is especially important for students choosing to study abroad, given the ever-increasing costs of higher education. Students and parents are often unaware of the available options and the ones that are best fit for them.

With college admissions becoming more competitive and many universities in the U.S. going the test-optional way, the Career Discovery journey enables high schoolers to highlight how they gained clarity on a particular major through conversations with professionals in related paths and to showcase projects and internships done in collaboration with them. Lastly, through Career Discovery, high schoolers gain a much deeper understanding of how they can capitalise on the opportunities, resources, and connections available to them in college to better prepare for the job market. Overall, the Career Discovery paradigm equips high schoolers with the necessary tools to make informed decisions about their future and stand out in a competitive college admission process.

The writer is the Co-Founder of Power Club

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Samavesha is a programme on inclusivity and diversity hosted by the School of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Abhivyakti is a certification course for K-12 teachers curated by School of Performing Arts and Indic Studies.

Nyaya Darshana is a series of events that contributes to social development and betterment of society.

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Khel Khoj is a movement to promote indigenous sports.

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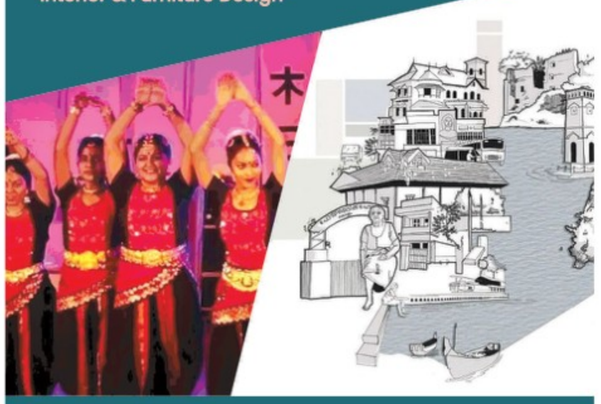

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Lessons in a loss

The Congress can learn more from the BJP's loss than from its win

The mandate for the Congress in Karnataka is as definitive as it could have been: an absolute majority with 135 seats in the 224-member Assembly garnering support from across regions and demographic groups. No doubt, some of the vote share accrued to it negatively as the principal party that was in opposition to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). This also became clear in the erosion of support for the Janata Dal (Secular); the space for a third player shrank considerably. The BJP won less than half the number of seats the Congress did, but the party that might have suffered an irreversible slide is the JD(S), which was seen as a family syndicate devoid of any moral compass. Voters could be forgiven for not having known which way the JD(S) would lean after the election. Surely, the opportunism of individual MLAs and the JD(S) following a hung Assembly in 2018 weighed heavily on their minds. Another indecisive verdict would have been as good as defeat for the Congress. Throughout the campaign, the Congress stayed united, focused and dynamic, while BJP leaders sought to settle scores with one another and worked at cross purposes. The Congress showed maturity and composure as the BJP tried to make up for its unpopularity by raking up divisive and extraneous issues. As the ruling party, it refused to be accountable for its track record in government and underestimated the intelligence of the voters by offering them communal opiates. The Congress largely stuck to issues that could have an impact on lives and livelihoods. For very good reasons, the BJP deserved its defeat as much as the Congress deserved its victory.

The Congress and the BJP have lessons to be drawn from the Karnataka verdict. If the BJP truly wants to be a party trusted by all religious and linguistic communities, it must learn to respect them. After its failed strategy in West Bengal in 2021, and now in Karnataka, the party must see the writing on the wall. Its totalising project is harmful not only for itself but also for the nation. A violation of long-cherished and productive regional aspirations is unsettling for national integrity and progress. The attempt to undermine native dairy brand Nandini is a case in point. In a remarkable shift from the past, the Congress acknowledged that it must address questions of caste justice too, while holding on to its opposition to religious sectarianism, and expanding welfarism. The Congress needs to move beyond the tired rhetoric of the old order and frame a new paradigm that is inclusive towards the regional, religious, class and caste diversities of the country. It has made an experimental beginning in Karnataka. Between the failed experiment of the BJP and the successful one of the Congress, Karnataka voters have imparted important lessons to India's political class.

Statistical succour

Policymakers cannot afford to drop their guard on inflation

The reading for retail inflation braked sharply last month to an 18-month low of 4.7%, aided in no small measure by the fact that price gains had hit an eight-year high of 7.8% in April 2022. While at the headline level inflation cooled by 96 basis points from March's 5.66%, the month-on-month price gains based on the provisional Consumer Price Index (CPI) in April showed a quickening to 0.51%, from the 0.23% pace in March. Inflation also slowed in April on the back of a year-on-year softening in food price gains with the Consumer Food Price Index easing almost lockstep with the broader index – the reading slid 95 basis points from the previous month's 4.79%, to 3.84%. Oils and fats were a vital contributor, with a deflation in prices widening to 12.3% last month, from 7.86% in March. Also, inflation in cereals, which has the highest weight of almost 10% in the CPI, slowed by 160 basis points to 13.7%, from 15.3% in the preceding month.

However, a closer look shows price gains accelerated sequentially in nine of the 12 subgroups of the food and beverages category that contributes almost 46% weight in the CPI basket. While vegetable prices remained in deflationary territory when compared with a year earlier, they registered 1.7% month-on-month inflation. And prices of fruits surged almost 4% from March's levels, even as year-on-year the price gains were half that pace at 2.1%. Of concern is that prices of pulses and products as well as sugar and confectionery showed accelerations in both year-on-year and month-on-month inflation rates. With the domestic output of pulses weaker in the current crop year, the Centre has already moved to tighten its monitoring of *tur* and *urad dal* stocks held by traders, so as to head off any attempts to hoard and push up prices. It is also reportedly mulling more export curbs on sugar amid a production shortfall. To be sure, besides the Centre's supply side measures, last year's base effect is bound to ensure that headline retail inflation is unlikely to go back above the Reserve Bank of India's upper tolerance threshold of 6%, at least during the current quarter. Still, there is no room for complacency. As Jayanth Varma, a member on the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee, flagged last month, there still loom two major risks to the inflation outlook – oil prices and uncertainty on the monsoon. The heightening prospect of an El Niño forebodes the possibility of erratic or even significantly deficient rainfall impacting foodgrains production, and policymakers can ill afford to drop their guard on inflation.

The Karnataka result, a blow to the BJP's 'myth-making'

Asim Ali

is a political researcher and columnist

It would be tempting to reduce the Karnataka Assembly election 2023 verdict to a simple case of State-level anti-incumbency. However, a simplistic anti-incumbency narrative, explained in terms of localised factors, might only obscure how the present 'national' polity also embeds itself deeply into 'State' results. This is because this election provides an excellent portal to understand certain contradictions in the Bharatiya Janata Party's post-2014 project of national domination.

A post-Yediyurappa election

Anti-incumbency is a necessary, but not a sufficient, explanation for the nature of the BJP's defeat. After all, this was the BJP's first 'post-Yediyurappa' election in close to three decades. Even as Mr. B.S. Yediyurappa was integrated into the campaign later, the party fought the election under the face of the Prime Minister. The key functions of election strategy and campaign execution had been centralised in an unprecedented manner, consequent to the national leadership's dominant control over the State unit post-Yediyurappa's ouster in 2021.

Arguably, the national hegemony of the ruling party post-2014 has been bolstered through certain persuasive myths attached to the 'new' Modi-Shah BJP. The use of the term 'myth' draws from French historian Georges Sorel's conception of myth: any 'concrete fantasy' that facilitates political consensus. The truth-value of a myth is immaterial here; what is material is only its functional value in the construction of hegemonic power.

Over the last decade, the BJP has particularly relied on two such myths for political expansion and/or legitimation – an ideological myth ('subaltern Hindutva') and a governance myth ('double engine *sarkar*'). These myths help the party ride over structural weaknesses and project a self-perpetuating aura of 'invincibility'. Insofar as the Karnataka election result disturbs the basis of these myths, it leaves a significant national imprint.

First, the myth of subaltern Hindutva. It is no doubt true that the BJP has broadened, in the recent past, its electoral catchment area among subaltern sections (Dalits, tribals, poorer non-dominant backward castes). However, besides the two national Modi waves, we have hardly seen widespread support of the subalterns towards an umbrella 'Hindu' coalition. The larger ideological basis of the subaltern support to Hindutva is unclear as they can often be characterised as the last-to-join and first-to-leave voters of the larger Hindu coalition. The former tendency has scorched the BJP in State elections in Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh, while the latter has stalled the party's expansion bid in State elections of Telangana, Odisha and Maharashtra,

> The State Assembly election and its result exposes the key contradictions in the party's project of national domination after 2014 — around 'subaltern Hindutva' and a 'double engine *sarkar*'

The use of hard Hindutva, top intervention

The national leadership of the BJP (along with a pro-Hindutva faction within the State unit) has been planning for a while to move the State party beyond its core Lingayat moorings and integrate subaltern sections through hard Hindutva. A major limitation of this strategy was that the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's grassroots influence hardly extended beyond coastal Karnataka (overlapping, co-incidentally, with the specific zone where communal issues find electoral resonance). Given this context, it is hard to believe the BJP's strategy largely consisted of saturating the airwaves with communal issues such as *halal*, hijab, and *azaan* (later 'terrorism' and 'Bajrangbali') and hoping for a near-spontaneously forged Hindu coalition. As it happened, the only significant impact of the BJP's hard Hindutva campaign, waged over two years, remained confined to the 20-odd seats of coastal Karnataka. Conversely, the Indian National Congress won a full majority precisely on an anti-BJP consolidation of the subaltern sections based on a (relatively) progressive socio-economic agenda. According to an Axis My India survey, the Congress lead over the BJP among Dalit voters is 38%; among tribals is 11%; Kurubas 39%, and Muslims 86%.

The second governance-based myth of a "double-engine" government, exalts Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a last-ditch saviour to an incompetent local leader. The structural reasons why so many BJP State governments require a late-in-the-day intervention by the Prime Minister, are often left unexplored.

This intervention typically takes the form of either replacing a Chief Minister in the latter stages of their term, or the Prime Minister's attempts rescuing a fledgling Chief Minister through a prolonged and personalised campaign. Karnataka, incidentally, saw both of these tactics. To cite examples from the recent past, such interventions were required in Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Goa, Tripura, and Gujarat, with fairly mixed outcomes.

Political scientist Neelanjan Sircar, among other scholars, argues that the primary reason lies in a mismatch of the 'credit attribution' of welfare schemes between the towering personality of Mr. Modi and his relatively puny State leaders.

The tragic case of Mr. Bommai in Karnataka can be used to explore another variation of this larger story, where the double-engine dragnet operates through the seeding of overt factional conflict. It would be easy now to attribute all sorts of moral failings onto the deposed Chief Minister. But he had been dealt a particularly weak initial hand – seen in tandem to be beholden to Mr. Modi-Shah as well as to his former mentor, Mr. Yediyurappa – Mr. Bommai struggled to exercise any independent control over factional networks within the party, or disciplinary authority over his administration.

Issue of corruption

In a State such as Karnataka, corruption is well-entrenched into mainstream caste-community based structures. However, as political scientist Harold Gould observed in 1997, in a paper on the Congress decline in Karnataka, the 'perception' of rampant corruption is deduced by the public through other surface-level political variables such as high factional conflict and a weak State leadership. The perception of 'out of control' corruption, as it adhered itself to Mr. Bommai, might have flowed just as well from perceptions of his structural weakness rather than any 'real' multiplication of corruption.

Consider some alternative pieces of evidence from the sobering CSDS-NDTV pre-poll: 63% of respondents claimed to be satisfied with the State government's performance, as opposed to 32% who claimed to be dissatisfied. It is almost identical to the satisfaction with the central government (66% versus 33%). On development projects, the government was rated fairly well, scoring high on the provision of roads, water and electricity. Incidentally, the ratings for the BJP on the three criteria of factionalism, corruption and nepotism were fairly identical (55%, 59%, 59%, respectively), indicating how these three variables might be co-constitutive. Yet, the same voters also held Mr. Bommai to be the most corrupt Chief Minister of the decade, not deserving of another mandate.

The 'empty signifier' of Mr. Bommai, suffocated by the double-engine combination, will now assume all the sins of the double engine, while credit for the valiant rescue mission will flow towards the top engine.

This strategic-economic bloc will only tighten the leash

Parminder Jeet Singh

is with the non-governmental organisation, IT for Change

In November 2019, India walked out from the trade pact called the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) involving China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and the 10-state Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) grouping. Fast forward to 2023, and now India along with many of the same countries, but with China replaced by the United States, is getting into the U.S.-driven Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF). The obvious questions are: what has changed? And how are the two economic partnership frameworks different?

The devil and deep sea

The one clear difference is of China versus the U.S. Developing a strategic partnership with the U.S. is India's top foreign policy priority. Its relationship with China has, meanwhile, further deteriorated. But a strategic partnership with the U.S. need not come at the cost of economic dependency on it. With China, the big economic fear was any trade deal's impact on India's manufacturing sector; of cheap Chinese goods flooding Indian markets. But the economic issues with the U.S. have been no less problematic, e.g. about agriculture, intellectual property, labour and environment standards, and the digital economy. Strategic partnership should not mean accepting a completely U.S. self-interest-driven economic framework that does not suit India's current economic interests.

Traditionally, trade deals used to be mostly about tariffs. Increasingly though, issues related to intellectual property, services, investment, domestic regulation, digital, and labour and environmental standards, are becoming more important. The U.S.'s IPEF proposal completely removes the tariff element of typical trade deals, and is entirely about all these other areas. In any case, traditional trade deals in the U.S. face likely roadblocks in the legislature. The U.S. has also found a tariffs-free trade deal, presented as a new kind of win-win economic partnership, as a good way to get around the resistance of many countries, including India, to free trade agreements, as they used to be called.

> The U.S.-driven Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity would result in a complete stranglehold over the economic systems of the participating countries

However, the IPEF's 'new age' language itself is the biggest trap. It knits vaguely-worded webs that are not obvious in their actual economic impact, other than to U.S. strategists who created the proposals. Early assessment by many experts shows that the IPEF would result in a complete stranglehold over the economic systems of the participating countries, in a manner that is to the complete advantage of the U.S. The IPEF is really about developing a strategic-economic bloc – an integrated economic system centred on the U.S., and, as importantly, excluding China. The systemic integration caused by the IPEF's actual long-term impact will leave little leeway for domestic policies to help a country's own industrialisation (for example through tight supply chain integration that many elements of the IPEF contribute to).

A trade deal googly

Developing country trade negotiators are used to the traditional language of free trade agreements. Having honed their skills looking for problems in them, they find it quite difficult to understand and respond to the sophistry that the IPEF's innocent-sounding text is filled with. This is especially so given that the IPEF is proposed to be concluded by November 2023, and when real engagements only began late last year. Traditional free trade agreements are much more focused but still take years to conclude. The supposed innocence of the relatively high-level language of the IPEF is being used as an excuse to rush it through. However, this is precisely the kind of language that will unsuspectingly trap countries in economy-wide permanent commitments, with domestic policy making space considerably compromised, but whose real implications will only become obvious by and by.

The IPEF has four pillars: trade, supply chains, clean economy, and fair economy. Fearful of a possible trap, India has joined the other three pillars but not trade. But there is great pressure on it to join trade too, and India could relent. Joining the trade pillar is the worst, but the other pillars too contribute to developing hard new economic architectures and structures that are not tariff-based.

In the long run, that could have an even stronger effect on economic and trade flows than tariffs. In the digital arena it is said that 'code is law, and architecture is policy'. In an increasingly digitalising world, hard-wiring supply chains and giving up policy spaces in key areas such as digital, labour and environment, and export constraints, would take the form of a gilded techno-legal cage of irreversible economic dependency. Does a strategic partnership with the U.S. need to come at such a price?

The IPEF can already be seen to have deep implications in agriculture, in terms of genetically modified seeds and food, surrendering policy space for regulating Big Tech, and compromising a comparative advantage in manufacturing because of unfair labour and environment standards. It will also seriously affect India's ability to create a vibrant domestic ecosystem in emerging areas such as a digital economy and green products.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Karnataka result

The heading of the report, "Congress surge topples BJP in Karnataka" (Page 1, May 14), was clever! While one of the tactics of the saffron party to win power is by toppling Congress governments in various States using horse-trading methods, it is now the turn of the Congress to "topple" the BJP government, but by following democratic processes. That the Grand Old Party won convincingly is satisfying. The Karnataka verdict was a clear mandate against the Prime Minister and the Home Minister too, who virtually camped in Karnataka throughout the election period. That this is also a vote for secularism is noteworthy.

Manoharan Muthuswamy,
Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu

The decimation of the Bharatiya Janata Party in the Karnataka Assembly election 2023 has spelt much relief to the people of the State in terms of federal governance, communal accord and freedom from the 40% commission rule. The verdict was not merely a case of the anti-incumbency factor alone, but, more importantly, anti-BJP sentiment too.
The over presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi only fuelled the sentiment. The people have given a clear verdict to enable a stable government. Starting with the hijab issue, the people were in search of communal amity and peace, and efficient governance. The results have shown that the BJP is not invincible.

N.G.R. Prasad,
Chennai

The Congress should not forget about the tall promises it has made in its manifesto. The statement from Congress scion Rahul Gandhi, that the "*Nafrat ki baazar band hogayi hai, mohabbat ki dukan khul gaya hai* (Market of hatred has shut down, shop of love has opened"), may sounding pleasing to the ear, but Mr. Gandhi should not forget the history of charges and cases against the Congress. People are going to watch the Congress very closely to see how its governs and whether it is able to make progress in the run-up to 2024.

A.P. Thiruvadi,
Chennai

The BJP's Karnataka defeat is also a defeat for the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Mr. Modi went to such an extent in this election to try and win that he transformed himself from Prime Minister to campaigner-in-chief, his 26-kilometre long road show being a case in point.
On the other hand, the campaigning by the Congress was successful in exposing the BJP's shortcomings, with its message resonating well with the people.
Attempts to divide the people on communal lines in a nation like India are short sighted.

S.K. Khosla,
Chandigarh

The electorate deserves praise for using its franchise to vote decisively and intelligently.
Hopefully, the Congress will not become complacent after such an overwhelming mandate but start working quickly instead.

S.N. Srinivasan,
Bengaluru

The politics of hatred and communal divide was strongly rebuffed by the intelligent voters of Karnataka. It is a good omen for democracy. Voters cannot always be swayed by the mere eloquence of leaders.

Balakrishnan M.K.,
Tattamangalam, Palakkad, Kerala

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How the Congress won an absolute majority in Karnataka

Focusing on local issues and stitching together a broad social coalition that lent it huge support helped the party win a comfortable majority in the State

Sandeep Shastri, Suhas Palshikar & Sanjay Kumar

Since 1985, Karnataka has never voted back a ruling party. The same trend has continued in 2023. Defying many predictions of an Assembly without a clear majority, the Congress received a clear mandate, winning 135 seats in the State and increasing its vote share by close to 5% points. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) more or less retained its vote share, but its seats plummeted by one-third. The Janata Dal (Secular) saw a fall of 5% points in its vote share and a slash in its tally by half (Table 1).

Both the Congress and the BJP invested a lot of time, energy and effort in winning this election. The BJP was keen to retain its only bastion in the south, while the Congress wished to seize the opportunity provided by an unpopular government in the State. The Lokniti-Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) post-poll survey indicates at what point voters made their voting choice. Four of every 10 respondents (39%) asserted that they had decided who to vote for well before the campaign started. A higher percentage of BJP voters took this stand (47%) compared to Congress (37%) and JD(S) (34%) supporters. The declaration of candidates and the campaign seemed to influence three of every 10 voters (29%). A higher percentage of Congress and JD (S) voters said that they had decided who to vote for during this phase. A little over one-fourth of them (28%) said that they had decided at the last minute. One-third of those who voted for the Congress (32%) and the JD(S) (31%) took this stand, while a little less than one-fourth of those who voted for the BJP (23%) held this position. It is thus clear that the choice of candidates and the nature of the campaign influenced the Congress and JD(S) voters more than they influenced the supporters of the BJP (Table 2). The focus on the local, attempted by the Congress and the JD(S), appears to have had a strong impact.

Congress workers and supporters celebrate the party's victory in the Karnataka Assembly elections, in Bengaluru. ANI

Lokniti-CSDS had conducted an earlier poll during the campaign in which over half the respondents (56%) had said that the party was the crucial factor while voting. For close to four of every 10 (38%), the candidate mattered. The leader mattered for very few. Congress voters were more likely to say that the party mattered more than the candidate, while BJP supporters gave equal importance to both. More than half the JD(S) voters gave greater weightage to the party over the candidate. Given the multiple party switches that Karnataka has seen, popular perception among the supporters of different parties assumes significance (Table 3).

It is clear that the Congress received more or less uniform support across age groups, while the BJP drew greater support from younger voters. The Congress drew greater support as compared to the BJP from those with different educational achievements, except those who had a college degree – a section among which the BJP did better. Congress voters were drawn from both urban and rural areas uniformly, while the BJP had much higher support among urban residents. While the Congress and the BJP secured support from the upper class, among the lower classes there was a 9% point difference between the support for the Congress and the BJP, with the Congress being ahead. The Congress was clearly more successful in building a rainbow social coalition with sizeable support among the Vokkaligas, Kurubas, Dalits, and Muslims. A higher share of tribal people voted for the Congress as compared to the BJP. The BJP performed better among the Lingayats, but its support among this influential segment has seen a decline with three of every 10 Lingayats voting for the Congress. It is clear that the Ahinda (minorities) social coalition that the Congress stitched together was more comprehensive than the one supporting the BJP.

Sandeep Shastri is National Coordinator of the Lokniti Network; Suhas Palshikar taught political science and is chief editor of Studies in Indian Politics; and Sanjay Kumar is Professor and Co-director Lokniti-CSDS

Table 1: Performances of parties

Parties	Seats won	Change from 2018	Vote(%)	Change from 2018
Congress	135	+55	42.88	+4.80
BJP	66	-38	36.00	-0.26
JD(S)	19	-18	13.29	-5.02
Others	4	+1	7.83	+0.48

Table 2: When did voters decide who to vote for?

	Last minute	During the campaign	After the announcement of candidates	Before the campaign started
Overall	28	15	14	39
Congress voters	32	16	13	37
BJP voters	23	11	14	47
JD(S) voters	31	22	13	34
Voters of other parties	25	10	18	22

Note: All figures are in percentage. Rest did not respond. | Question asked: When did you finally make up your mind about who to vote for?

Table 3: Important consideration while voting

	What mattered to voters while deciding who to vote for		
	Party	Candidate	Leader/CM
Overall	56	38	3
Among Congress voters	66	30	3
Among BJP voters	49	47	2
Among JD(S) voters	54	36	6
Among voters of other parties	38	38	5

Note: All figures are in percentage. Rest gave other responses or did not respond. | Question asked: While deciding who to vote for during this Assembly election, what did you give more consideration/importance to - party or candidate? (Asked before the poll)

Table 4: Vote by demographics

	Party voted for in election			
	Cong.	BJP	JD(S)	Others
Up to 25 years	42	40	12	6
26-35 years	46	33	14	7
36-45 years	41	38	14	7
46-55 years	46	35	13	6
56 years and above	40	36	13	11
Non-literate	39	34	17	10
Up to primary	47	35	14	4
Up to matric	49	28	15	8
College and above	39	45	11	5
Rural	43	33	14	10
Urban	42	41	13	4

The Ahinda advantage

Sanjay Kumar

The rainbow coalition stitched by the Congress has been key to the party's resounding victory. While 70% of Muslims voted for the Congress, the party also received sizeable support from various castes, except the upper castes and the Lingayats. Among the Lingayats, 56% voted for the BJP and 29% voted for the Congress. There was no significant shift in the votes of the Lingayats away from the BJP though a prominent Lingayat leader of the BJP, Jagadish Shettar, quit the party and joined the Congress. Mr. Shettar was defeated in the Hubbali-Dharward Central Assembly constituency, which further indicates that he was unable to mobilise Lingayat votes in favour of the Congress. The BJP also enjoyed a massive lead over the Congress among upper caste voters. The OBC votes remained divided between the Congress (34%) and BJP (37%).

The Kuruba community, to which Congress leader Siddaramaiah belongs; the Dalit community, to which Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge belongs; and the Adivasis all voted for the Congress in large numbers. The Congress had enjoyed an advantage over its rivals among these communities even in previous elections, but this election saw a decisive shift in favour of the party. The shift among the Vokkaliga voters away from the JD(S) explains why the JD(S) performed badly this time. It also failed to retain the support of Muslims. These two communities were the backbone of the JD(S)'s support base in Karnataka, more so in in southern Karnataka, which accounts for 51 Assembly seats. Of these, in 2018, the JD(S) won 24 seats and polled 37.5%. But in 2023, its vote share went down to 29.5%.

> The Lingayats supported the BJP, while the rest supported the Congress

Karnataka voters are clearly divided on caste-community lines, with the traditional Brahmin-Lingayat combination behind the BJP and the rest behind the Congress – a repeat of the Ahinda (minorities) social coalition.

Sanjay Kumar is Professor and Co-director Lokniti-CSDS

Table 1: Vote share across caste and community groups

	Party voted for, in Karnataka Assembly elections (%)			
	Cong.	BJP	JD(S)	Others
Upper castes	22	60	14	4
Vokkaligas	49	24	17	10
Lingayats	29	56	9	6
Kurubas	56	33	8	3
Other OBCs	34	37	17	12
Dalits	63	23	10	4
Adivasis	45	39	13	3
Muslims	70	10	14	6

Methodology

The findings are from the Karnataka Assembly post-poll study conducted by the Lokniti programme of CSDS, Delhi, between May 10 and 12. A total of 1,650 voters spread across 60 polling stations in 15 randomly selected Assembly constituencies were interviewed. The field work was coordinated by Veena Devi and supervised by Nagesha K.L. in Karnataka.

The multi-stage systematic random sampling (SRS) design was adopted. The Assembly constituencies were randomly selected using the probability proportional to size method. Thereafter, four polling stations within each of the sampled Assembly constituencies were selected using the SRS method. In each polling station, 40 voters were randomly sampled (of which 25 were interviewed) from the electoral roll using the SRS method. The interviews (10-15 minutes each) were conducted at electors' homes by specially trained field investigators, mostly students from colleges and universities. The questionnaire was translated into Kannada. The English questionnaire is uploaded on the Lokniti website.

Though the sample is relatively small, the total number of voters interviewed represent the social reality of the voters of Karnataka.

The Lokniti team comprised Vibha Attri, Aaliyia Malik, Devesh Kumar, Himanshu Kapoor, Priyanka Mittal, Rishikesh Yadav, Himanshu Bhattacharya and Dhananjay Kumar Singh. The post-poll study was directed by Sanjay Kumar, Suhas Palshikar and Sandeep Shastri.

Dissatisfaction with the government's performance mattered

Aaliyia Malik & Devesh Kumar

The Congress has emerged victorious by effectively capitalising on the anti-incumbency sentiment prevailing in Karnataka. Employing a micro-focused campaign, the party was able to secure an absolute majority of 135 seats. How much did anti-incumbency play a role in shaping this outcome?

When asked whether they took into consideration the work done by the Basavaraj Bommai-led State government or the Narendra Modi-led Central government when deciding their vote, only one-seventh of the respondents considered the work done by the State government while casting their vote. One-fifth of the voters took into account both the Central and State governments while casting their vote. The work done by the MLAs in their respective local areas was given the least importance (Table 1).

The data suggest that there was discontentment with the performance of the BJP governments both in Karnataka and at the Centre. Approximately two-fifth of the voters expressed dissatisfaction, with one-fourth being fully dissatisfied. Almost an equal proportion of voters were displeased with the performance of the Modi-led BJP government at the Centre too (Table 2). This played a decisive role in the electoral choice as nearly 61% of the voters who were fully dissatisfied with the BJP government in Karnataka voted for the Congress (Table 3). Similarly, when asked about the performance of the Central government over the last four years, nearly 65% of those who were fully dissatisfied voted for the Congress (Table 4).

Thus, dissatisfaction with the government's performance did matter, because even over four in every 10 respondents who were somewhat satisfied with the Modi government voted for the Congress.

> Even more than four in every 10 respondents who were 'somewhat satisfied' with the Modi government voted for the Congress.

Aaliyia Malik & Devesh Kumar are researchers at Lokniti-CSDS

Table 1: Consideration while voting

Consideration while voting in these elections	(%)
Work done by Bommai government	14
Work done by Modi government	26
Both	27
Work of MLA	12

Question asked: *While voting in these elections, did you pay more attention to the work done by the Bommai government at the State or the Modi government at the Centre?*

Table 2: Voters' assessment of overall performance of the State and Central governments

Satisfaction with performance of	Work done by the BJP government in Karnataka	Work done by the Modi-led government at the Centre
Fully satisfied	22	25
Somewhat satisfied	34	32
Somewhat dissatisfied	19	17
Fully dissatisfied	23	24

Note: *All figures are in percentage. Rest did not respond.*
Question asked: *Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the performance of the BJP government in Karnataka over the last five years/Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the performance of the Narendra Modi–led Central government over the last four years?*

Table 3: Dissatisfied with the BJP in Karnataka, voters choose Congress

	Voted for Congress	Voted for BJP
Fully satisfied	15	69
Somewhat satisfied	38	42
Somewhat dissatisfied	63	18
Fully dissatisfied	61	11

Note: *All figures are in percentage. Rest did not respond.*
Question asked: *Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the performance of the BJP government in Karnataka over the last five¬ years?*

Table 4: Dissatisfied with the Central government, voters choose Congress

	Voted for Congress	Voted for BJP
Fully satisfied	12	74
Somewhat satisfied	43	38
Somewhat dissatisfied	58	19
Fully dissatisfied	65	7

Note: *All figures are in percentage. Rest did not respond.*
Question asked: *Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the performance of the Narendra Modi–led Central government over the last four years?*

The leadership factor

Veena Devi & Nagesh K.L.

What was the role of the leadership factor in the Karnataka Assembly elections? Three-fourths of the respondents admitted that they had not attended the election rallies addressed by either Narendra Modi or Rahul Gandhi during the last 10 days of the campaign (Table 1).

When asked specifically about the influence of the rallies addressed by Mr. Modi on the way they voted, close to two-thirds of the respondents (63%) stated that it did not influence the way they voted. For BJP voters, however, Mr. Modi still mattered. Six of every 10 (61%) respondents who voted for the BJP said Mr. Modi's campaign speeches influenced the way they voted. The Congress and JD(S) voters were more likely to say that Mr. Modi's speeches did not influence the way they voted (Table 2).

In the case of the influence of Mr. Gandhi's speeches on the way they voted, close to seven of every 10 respondents said these speeches had little influence (69%). Six of every 10 Congress voters (59%) too said that his speeches did not influence the way they voted (Table 2).

Of the national leaders of the two parties, Mr. Modi's speeches had a greater influence over BJP voters as compared to Mr. Gandhi's influence on Congress voters.

When it came to their preferred chief ministerial candidate, Siddaramaiah was the choice of four of every 10 respondents (39%). Incumbent Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai was favoured by a little less than two of every 10 (18%) and JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy was mentioned by a little over one of every 10 (12%).

In line with the Congress being favoured as the ruling party, there was corresponding support for its leader, Siddaramaiah.

Veena Devi is Professor at the Department of Political Science, Jnana Bharathi Campus, Bangalore University, and Nagesh K.L. teaches in the Department of Pre University Education, Karnataka

Table 1: Participation in rallies

	In the last 10 days, did you attend any election rally addressed by.....	
	Narendra Modi	Rahul Gandhi
Yes	19	17
No	75	75

Note: All figures are in percentage. Rest did not respond. | Question asked: In the last 10 days, did you attend any election rally addressed by Prime minister Narendra Modi / In the last 10 days, did you attend any election rally addressed by Rahul Gandhi?

Table 2: Effect of rallies

	Yes	No
Did Narendra Modi's campaign speeches influence the way you voted?		
Overall	31	63
Congress voters	11	85
BJP voters	61	36
JD(S) voters	18	77
Voters of other parties	16	58
Did Rahul Gandhi's campaign speeches influence the way you voted?		
Overall	21	69
Congress voters	34	59
BJP voters	12	79
JD(S) voters	12	77
Voters of other parties	10	73

Note: All figures are in percentage. Rest did not respond. | Question asked: Did the campaign speeches of Prime Minister Narendra Modi influence the way you voted? / Did the campaign speeches of Rahul Gandhi influence the way you voted?

A poster of Congress leader Siddaramaiah outside his residence in Bengaluru, referring to him as the next CM of Karnataka. ANI

BJP's failure to tackle unemployment, poverty hit it hard in Karnataka polls

Nearly 30% of voters said unemployment was the biggest issue this election compared with just 3% in 2018; Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had claimed during an event in March that there was 'minimum unemployment' in the State and 33 lakh jobs had been created in the past five years

Vibha Attri
Himanshu Kapoor

Speaking at the inauguration of the Indian Institute of Technology, Dharwad in March, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai claimed that there was "minimum unemployment" in Karnataka and the Union government was behind the creation of 33 lakh jobs in the State in the past five years, with 13 lakh created in the past year alone.

However, the Lokniti-CSDS post-poll survey data show that unemployment was the biggest voting issue for voters in the State. Asked an open-ended question, close to three in 10 voters (30%) stated unemployment to be the biggest issue while voting in this election (Table 1).

Poverty stood at a distant second, with 21% saying that it was the biggest issue. Price rise was mentioned by 6% of voters as the main issue, thus bringing economic issues to the fore, with nearly 60% of voters drawing attention to economic issues more generally.

Lack of development was reported by 15% of voters and poor education was mentioned by one in 10 voters. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, in his campaign speeches in the State, had raised the question of corruption and how the ruling BJP government was silent on corruption done by the government. However, only 4% reported it to be the single most important voting issue for them in these elections. Although, as the piece on corruption shows, the issue did have considerable salience.

In the 2018 Assembly election, a mere 3% of voters reported unemployment to be an issue. For the majority (27%), development was the biggest issue. Back then, no issue other than development crossed double digits. This corroborates the fact that unemployment was one of the major pressing issues for voters in this election.

Furthermore, about a quarter (26%) reported a decrease in employment opportunities and four in 10 (42%) reported no change in employment opportunities in the past five years. Only close to 30% reported an increase in jobs in the State (Table 2).

Close to five in 10 of those who stated unemployment and poverty as the biggest issue voted for the Congress

Looking at the vote choice of those who stated unemployment, poverty, lack of development and price rise as issues, we note that barring those who stated development as the most important issue, the Congress was the preferred choice for everyone else.

Close to five in 10 of those who stated unemployment and poverty as the biggest issue in this election voted for the Congress (47% and 48 %, respectively) as compared with three in 10 for the BJP. For the 6% who stated price rise as the issue, the Congress was the preferred party for six in 10 voters and the BJP for three in 10 voters. What is interesting is that for the 15% who stated lack of development as the main voting issue, a higher proportion voted for the BJP (48%) than the Congress (29%) and the JD(S) (15%).

The victory of the Congress in the State can be partially attributed to the BJP's inability to tackle unemployment and poverty in the State.

The authors are researchers at Lokniti-CSDS

Victory lap: Congress supporters celebrating in Bengaluru. BHAGYA PRAKASH

Table 1: Unemployment is emerging as the biggest issue

Biggest voting issue in 2023	(%)
Unemployment	30
Poverty	21
Lack of development	15
Price rise / inflation	6
Education/school/college-related issues	6
Corruption/scam	4
Other issues	12
No response	6

Question asked: While deciding whom to vote for in the coming Assembly election, what is the single-most important issue for you?

Table 2: Only a small proportion of voters feel employment opportunities have increased in Karnataka

Employment opportunities have...	(%)
Increased	28
Remained same	42
Decreased	26

Note: Rest did not respond
Question asked: These things increased or decreased in your area in the past five years? (asked pre-poll)

Table 3: Most important issue by vote choice (%)

	Party voted for in 2023			
Four most important voting issues	Congress	BJP	JD(S)	Others
Unemployment	47	30	18	5
Poverty	48	33	12	7
Lack of development	29	48	15	8
Price rise/inflation	60	28	8	4

Note: Only top four issues have been given. Rest stated other issues.
Question asked: What was the most important issue for you while deciding whom to vote for in this Assembly election?

Issue of corruption resonated with voters ahead of election day

Suhas Palshikar

Many commentators and observers of Karnataka politics have pointed out that corruption became a crucial issue for the voters in the Assembly election. What does the data tell us in this regard?

More than three weeks before election day, Lokniti conducted a survey on what voters thought about governance and election issues in the State. Asked a direct question, more than half the respondents agreed that corruption had "increased" in the past five years (Table 1). While die-hard BJP voters would still have liked to believe that the Congress was more corrupt (36% said so), a large majority of almost six in 10 respondents (58%) said then that the BJP was the "more corrupt" party.

Even among those intending to vote for the BJP, only a handful (16%) said corruption had decreased, while more than four in 10 (42%) BJP supporters conceded that corruption had increased.

No wonder, much before the election, we saw a clear association between the perception on corruption and vote choice. Among those who believed corruption had increased, the Congress had an advantage of 13 percentage points over the BJP, whereas among those who believed that corruption had decreased (though a small proportion of respondents), the BJP had a huge advantage (Table 2).

The author taught political science and is chief editor of Studies in Indian Politics

Table 1: Three weeks before voting, majority believed that corruption had increased

Corruption has...	(%)
Increased	51
Remained same	35
Decreased	11
No response	3

Question asked: Has corruption increased, decreased or remained the same in the past five years?

Table 2: Issue of corruption and vote intention

Corruption has...	Would vote for...			
	Congress	BJP	JD(S)	Other parties
Increased	43	30	18	9
Remained same	43	41	9	7
Decreased	36	52	6	6

Note: All figure in per cent. Rest did not respond

Rhetoric or reality? double-engine model didn't convince voters

Devesh Kumar
Priyanka Mittal

The rhetoric of a "double-engine government" did not appear to convince the Karnataka voter this time. The double-engine model was introduced by the BJP to persuade voters to vote for the BJP in a State, promising increased benefits of development by having enhanced communication between the Centre and the State.

Despite the larger appeal of this model as witnessed in high-octane campaigns, it did not have the desired impact on the voters in Karnataka. As per the Lokniti-CSDS post-poll survey, its allure remained largely limited to the BJP supporters.

A little more than half of the voters expressed support for the double-engine model, but this did not translate into votes for the BJP. Instead, two-fifths of the voters disagreed with the concept, with one-fifth fully opposing it (Table 1). The BJP voters were the primary advocates of the double-engine model, with nearly four-fifths of them supporting it. However, the model failed to generate sufficient enthusiasm among the non-BJP voters. Among those who disagreed, Congress and JD(S) voters made up the majority, with more than half of them expressing disapproval.

In particular, the opposition to the double-engine model was higher among the Congress voters (57%) than the JD(S) voters (47%) (Table 2).

The authors are researchers at Lokniti-CSDS

Table 1: Support for double engine (%)

The Centre and State should have the same government	(%)
Fully agree	26
Somewhat agree	31
Somewhat disagree	21
Fully disagree	20
No response	2

Question asked: For the development of the State, the ruling party at the Centre and the State should be the same. Do you agree or disagree with the statement?

Table 2: Support for double engine among voters of different parties (%)

	Support for double-engine government			
	Fully agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Fully disagree
Among Congress voters	11	30	28	29
Among BJP voters	48	33	13	5
Among JD(S) voters	13	40	20	27
Voters of other parties	29	20	14	31

Note: Rest gave no response

How voters responded to the new reservation matrix

Veena Devi
Nagesh K.L.

In the survey done during the election campaign, a few questions were asked to measure the response of voters to the new reservation policy announced by the BJP government. Only one-third of the respondents had heard about the new policy.

Those who had heard about the policy were asked a fresh set of questions to gauge their opinion on it. When it came to separate reservations for Vokkaligas and Lingayats and increased quota for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, more than two-thirds of the respondents either fully supported or somewhat supported the move. In the case of quashing the quota for Muslims, the opinion was more or less equally divided (Table 2).

Among those who took a stand on the reservation policy, those who supported it were more likely to support the BJP while those against were, in all probability, favouring the Congress. It is important to assert that this is, in no way an indicator of the voting pattern. Among those who had heard of the policy, (one-third of the respondents), close to half supported the BJP.

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Table 1: Awareness of the new reservation policy

	Yes
Heard of the new caste reservations that the Karnataka government has implemented	33

Note: All figures in per cent. Figure for only those who had heard about it.
Question asked: Have you heard of the new caste reservations that the Karnataka government has implemented?

Table 2: Level of support for the new reservation policy

Do you support or oppose the following changes in existing reservation policies	Fully support	Some support	Some opposition	Fully oppose
Separate reservation for the Lingayats	28	45	12	12
Separate reservation for Vokkaligas	27	37	20	13
Increasing the quota for Scheduled Castes	27	41	17	13
Increasing the quota for Scheduled Tribes	26	41	18	12
Quashing of reservations for Muslims	24	25	23	24

Note: All figures are in per cent. Rest gave no response
Question asked: Do you support or oppose the following in existing reservation policies for specific groups?

Popularity of welfare schemes fails to propel BJP to power in Karnataka

Vibha Attri
Aaliyia Malik

Most governments make citizen-centric welfare schemes which seek to deliver public services to the people and these schemes are sometimes crucial in determining the vote choice of the people. The Lokniti-CSDS survey asked voters in Karnataka about the various Union and State government-run welfare schemes in order to assess the penetration and impact of these schemes.

With regard to the schemes run by the Union government, close to three in 10 voters said they had benefited from schemes such as the MGNREGS, Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Ujjwala Yojana and Pension Yojana. However, there was lower penetration of Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Suraksha Bima Yojana and crop insurance schemes, with only two in 10 beneficiaries (Table 1).

With regard to welfare measures run by the State, the BJP government's flagship Bhagyalakshmi scheme's main objective was to encourage families living below the poverty line (BPL) to have more girls and reduce female foeticide. The scheme was linked to cash transfer in the name of the beneficiary at the time of birth for both first and second girl child. It is worth noting that this scheme had the greatest beneficiaries, with 45% of voters stating that either they or someone in their family had benefited from this scheme.

The second scheme which seemed popular with 37% of beneficiaries was the free cycle scheme for government schoolchildren (Table 2). In a separate question, the voters were asked whether in the past two or three years, they or anyone in their families had benefited from any scheme of the Union government or the State government.

A higher proportion of voters had benefited from at least one Union government scheme compared with State government scheme (44% versus 38%).

Impact on votes

While vote choices are seldom made on the basis of a single factor, there seems to be at least reasonable association between benefit from a scheme and vote choice: those who benefited from any scheme of the Centre or the State were more likely to have voted for the BJP as compared with the non-beneficiaries who tended to vote for the Congress or the Janata Dal (S) (Table 3).

The authors are researchers at Lokniti-CSDS

Table 1: Beneficiaries of various welfare schemes of the Union government

Scheme	Benefited
MGNREGA	31
PM Awas Yojana	31
Prime Minister Ujjwala Yojana	30
Ayushman Bharat Yojana (National Health Protection Mission)	32
Pension Yojana (old-age, widow, disabilities)	31
Prime Minister Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana	23
Prime Minister Suraksha Bima Yojana	21
Prime Minister Crop Insurance scheme	17

Note: All figure in per cent. Rest did not respond
Question asked: Have you or your family ever benefited from these schemes? (asked before polls)

Table 2: Beneficiaries of various welfare schemes of the State government

Scheme	Benefited
Bhagyalakshmi Yojana (For BPL families)	45
Free cycle for government schoolchildren	37
COVID relief for BPL families (₹1 lakh)	25
Sandhya Suraksha Yojana (Old-age Pension Scheme)	30
Zero-interest agriculture loan	28
Farm Insurance Scheme	28
Arogya Kavacha Yojana (Health scheme - Public Private Partnership)	24
Mukhyamantri Bala Seva Yojana (Relief for children both of whose parents died during the pandemic (₹3,500 per month)	14

Note: All figure in per cent. Rest did not respond
Question asked: Have you or your family ever benefited from these schemes launched by the State government? (asked before polls)

Table 3: Benefits of welfare schemes and vote choice

	Congress	BJP	JD(S)	Others
Beneficiaries of any Central scheme	28	54	11	7
Non-beneficiaries of any Central scheme	54	24	15	7
Beneficiaries of any State scheme	30	50	13	7
Non-beneficiaries of any State scheme	51	28	14	7

Note: All figure in per cent. Rest did not respond
Question asked: In the past 2-3 years, have you or anyone from your family benefited from any government schemes of Modi-led BJP government at the Centre? In the past 2-3 years, have you or anyone from your family benefited from any government schemes of Bommai-led State government? (asked post-poll)

From Page One

New CLP asks Kharge to pick next Karnataka CM

Former Maharashtra CM Sushil Kumar Shinde and AICC general secretaries Jitendra Singh and Deepak Babaria presided over the CLP meeting as central observers. After the CLP meeting concluded with a unanimous one-line resolution being passed, the observers met each of the 135 MLAs individually and sought their choice for the chief ministerial post. This would be collated and handed over to the high command for further action, said sources.

The CLP meeting on Sunday evening was preceded by intense lobbying by both leaders seeking the support of MLAs. The lobbying acquired a caste tinge when the prominent Vokkaliga seer of Adichunchanagiri Math, Nirmalandanatha Swami, openly batted for Mr. Shivakumar to be made Chief Minister, just minutes before the CLP meeting.

Calling for a "reward" for the hard work put in by Mr. Shivakumar, the seer of the Math said, "It is a tradition that whoever is the president of the party is also given responsibility to lead the State when the party comes to power. D.K. Shivakumar, from the Vokkaliga community, should become the Chief Minister of the State. He is eligible to lead the State in every way."

10 die after consuming spurious liquor in T.N.

The villagers started falling ill after consuming it. They were rushed to the Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER) and the Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS).

"Though Indian-made foreign liquor (IMFL) is mostly smuggled into the district from Puducherry, the demand for the illicitly distilled arrack has been on the rise. This demand has spurred an illegal network of officials and bootleggers that operates with impunity," a source said.

Director-General of Police C. Sylendra Babu ordered the suspension of Inspectors Arun Vadivel Azhagan (Marakkanam) and Maria Sobi Manjula (Kottakuppam-Prohibition Enforcement Wing); sub-inspectors Deepan (Marakkanam) and Sivagurunathan (PEW) in connection with the Villupuram incident.

In Chengalpattu district, Melmaruvathur inspector Prem Anand, Siddhamoor sub-inspector Mohanasundaram, and PEW Sub-Inspector Ramesh were suspended.

Six special police teams have been formed to establish the source of the methanol-based brew, which Amaran (25) of Marakkanam, since arrested, procured in sachets and supplied to the victims in Villupuram.

Mr. Babu said two persons, Ammavasai and Ravi, have been arrested in connection with the spurious liquor tragedy in Chengalpattu.

Those who died on Sunday have been identified as Sankar (55), Dharanivel (50), Suresh (65), Rajamoorthy (55), Malarvizhi (60), and Mannankatti (65), all belonging to Ekkiyarkuppam village.

Mr. Babu told *The Hindu* that commissioners and superintendents have been ordered to conduct checks at vulnerable locations that had a history of spurious liquor or sale. The menace of illegal distilleries has been contained to a large extent and the brewing was reported in some parts of the State bordering Puducherry and Karaikal, he said.

Govt. nod for 4th Positive Indigenisation List for DPSUs

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Continuing the efforts to minimise imports by defence public sector undertakings (DPUSs), the Defence Ministry has approved the fourth Positive Indigenisation List (PIL) of 928 strategically important line replacement units (LRUs), sub-systems, spares and components, including high-end materials and spares, with an import substitution value of ₹715 crore, a Ministry statement said on Sunday.

"The DPSUs will soon initiate procurement action for these notified items. The industry may look for expression of interest (EoI), request for proposal (RFP) on the Srijan portal dashboard, especially designed for this purpose, and may come forward to participate in large number," the statement said.

This fourth list is in continuation of the previous three indigenisation lists, which were published in December 2021, March 2022 and August 2022, respectively.

With Bommai out and PTR shifted, GST GoMs may need rejig

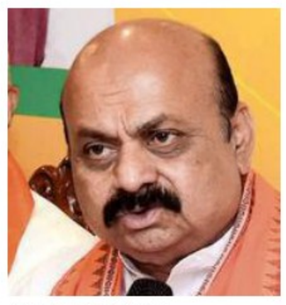
Outgoing Karnataka CM chaired a GST Council group on rationalisation of rate structures, while former Tamil Nadu FM was part of two groups

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

The change of guard after the Assembly election in Karnataka and the shuffle of the Tamil Nadu Ministry have triggered the need for the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council to reconstitute at least three ministerial panels tasked with recommending critical reforms of the indirect tax regime.

Basavaraj Bommai, who resigned as the Chief Minister of Karnataka on Saturday, was the chairperson of the GST Council's Group of Ministers (GoM) tasked with the rationalisation of the GST's complex rates' system with multiple tax slabs.

The panel, formed in September 2021, initially had a two-month deadline. With inflation running high through 2022-23 and remaining a concern, the government has been going slow on the GST rate rationalisation agenda. Sweeping structural changes would likely mean higher tax rates for several items.


Basavaraj Bommai

Mr. Bommai's exit from power will mean the Council will have to appoint a new convener for the panel, which also had Ministers from six other States, including Kerala Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal.

Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, the former Finance Minister and current IT Minister of Tamil Nadu, who was also involved in two of the Council's GoMs, will most likely be replaced by the new State Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu.

Political changes

Usually, a Minister from the same State is added into the Council's panels due to any changes in State governments, but there have been occasions when this principle has not been followed.

Incidentally, erstwhile Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tarkishore Prasad was also part of the GoM convened by Mr. Bommai, but there has been no official communique of any other member being included in the panel after August 2022, when Mr. Prasad exited.

The panel is also tasked with proposing corrections to the inverted duty structures that had crept into the Goods and Services Tax regime.

Centre announces Praveen Sood as new CBI Director

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Karnataka's Director-General of Police (DGP) Praveen Sood was appointed Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Sunday, according to an order of the Department of Personnel and Training.

The key appointment will see Mr. Sood at the helm of affairs of the investigating agency during the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

Mr. Sood – who has never served with either the CBI or the Union government – was not empanelled as DGP at the Centre. His name was not among the original panel of officers shortlisted for the job.

An official said that the empanelment at the Centre will not apply in the case of the CBI Director, unlike in the case of other Central government appointments, as he or she derives powers under the Delhi Police Special Establishment Act, 1946.

"Approval of the Competent Authority is hereby conveyed to the appointment of Shri Praveen Sood,

Praveen Sood

IPS (KN:86) as Director, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for a period of two years from the date of assumption of charge of the office vice Shri Subodh Kumar Jaiswal, IPS (MH:85) consequent upon completion of his tenure," the order said.

Mr. Sood's name was finalised on Saturday by a three-member panel comprising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

The two-year fixed tenure of the present incumbent Subodh Kumar Jaiswal is coming to an end on May 25.

After loss in Karnataka, BJP has to rethink on role of its leaders in Rajasthan, Maharashtra

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party's defeat in Karnataka has given much food for thought for the party's national leadership, including the treatment of regional satraps in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, which are going to the polls in a matter of months.

The resignation of B.S. Yediyurappa as Chief Minister and the subsequent alienation of the Lingayat community, the bedrock of the party's base in Karnataka, is being seen as one of the main reasons for its defeat and the rather disappointing tally.

In this scenario, there are many within the party who want to rethink on the leadership situation in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. In Madhya Pradesh, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan is the incumbent, and the next election will be fought on his record. There have been attempts to reinvent his image and the BJP's central leadership is invested in reviving the party cadre, which is suffering from poll fatigue already.

BJP supporters during an election rally by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the Karnataka Assembly election. PTI

Sources in the party say newer welfare programmes and outreach about them are being done to bolster its chances and combat the anti-incumbency trend attached to a four-term Chief Ministership.

However, in the case of former Chief Minister of Rajasthan Vasundhara Raje, the lessons from Karnataka are coming in handy. Ms. Raje is acknowledged as the BJP's mass leader with a pan-State presence but has not exactly shared a close equation with the national leadership in New Delhi.

She has clashed with Home Minister Amit Shah in the past over the choice of State unit chief and prevailed as well.

The earlier thinking in New Delhi was that with its tradition of alternation, Rajasthan will be voting the BJP back to power. The party, by clever ticket distribution and headwinds of anti-incumbency against the Ashok Gehlot government, has its choice on who to project in the election.

Karnataka and Mr. Yediyurappa's fate has brought up those plans short. Ms. Raje has been actively campaigning against the Gehlot government for a year or so now and her show of strength in March on her birthday was a signal that she is still a strong force in State politics.

All elections are different, but on a basic level are popularity contests. Karnataka election has reinforced that lesson for the BJP, with surprising benefits to some leaders north of the Vindhyas.

SC to hear appeal in Jaipur blast case on May 17

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court will hear on Wednesday an appeal filed by relatives of the victims of the 2008 Jaipur serial blasts against a Rajasthan High Court decision to acquit four men who were on death row.

Mohammad Saif, Mohammad Salman, Saifur and Mohammad Sarvar Azmi were awarded death penalty in December 2019.

A fifth accused, Shahbaz Hussain, had also been acquitted.

Jaipur was rocked by a series of blasts on May 13, 2008.

The explosions left 71 people dead and 185 injured.

Amid crisis in State, Manipur CM, BJP chief rush to Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Embattled Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, along with four Cabinet colleagues and State BJP president A. Sharda Devi, rushed to New Delhi on a chartered flight on Sunday, amid violence last week and the demand by 10 tribal MLAs of the Chin-Kuki-Mizo-Zomi group that there be a separate administration for the hill regions following clashes between the Meitei and tribal populations.

Mr. Singh will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, though both these meetings could not be confirmed at the time of filing this report.

According to informed sources, the issue of the ongoing suspension of operation with militant organisations is also likely to be discussed. The demand by the 10 MLAs of the Chin-Kuki-Mizo-Zomi group is significant as seven of them belong to the BJP, two are from the Kuki People's Alliance (KPA) and one is an Independent. The two KPA and Independent MLAs are also part of the NDA, led by the BJP.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, one of the MLAs in the tribal grouping said that their priority was the re-establishment of peace in the State, more than a leadership change.

"That is our priority, and for the rest, please speak to the Chief Minister," said one MLA.

Solidarity march

Four Cabinet Ministers – Th. Biswajit, Y. Khemchand, K. Govindas and Th. Prasanta – accompanied the Chief Minister to Delhi. Ms. Devi also went to Delhi with them, the sources said.

Violent clashes broke out in the northeastern State after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the 10 hill districts on May 3 in protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status and a High Court order to consider the demand.

With 6.9% year-on-year growth, goods exports rise to $451 billion in 2022-23

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

India's goods exports for 2022-23 scaled up significantly from earlier estimates to almost $451 billion, indicating a 6.9% year-on-year growth, with exports for March upgraded sharply to a nine-month high of $41.9 billion, as per Commerce Ministry data.

Initial estimates for March had pegged exports at $38.38 billion, marking a sharp 13.9% decline, but revised numbers signal only a 6% contraction. The $41.9 billion exports made March only the second month of 2022-23 to cross the $40-billion mark after $42.3 billion in outbound shipments last June.

The Ministry, which will be releasing the initial estimates for April's merchandise trade on Monday, also revised March's import bill to over $60 billion, the highest in 2023, raising its initial estimate of imports during the month by $1.9 billion.

However, the overall import bill for 2022-23 remained unchanged at $714.04 billion, a 16.5% rise from 2021-22, compared to $714.24 billion reported initially. The rise in March's import figure was offset by $1.7 billion correction in November 2022's import tally that was initially pegged at $58.2 billion, then revised upwards and finally pared to $56.95 billion.

Total exports were initially pegged at $447.46 billion as per data released on April 15, then revised to $444.2 billion, as per a Ministry statement on May 1. This figure has now been raised to $450.95 billion. Similarly, the import bill as per the May 1 statement was pegged at $711.85 billion, from the initial estimate of $714.24 billion. Overall, export numbers were revised by over $25 billion from their initial estimates through 2022-23, with four months seeing a $3 billion-plus upward revision.

While experts have flagged petroleum shipments as the main driver for the high revisions of recent export data, the revision in import numbers needs further scrutiny.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE No. 01-DCE-CN-I-MDU-2023-OT

For and on behalf of the President of India, the Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction / I / Southern Railway, Arasaradi, Madurai - 625016 invites e-tender for the following works as per Notice inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The tenderers/ Contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and **only online tenders will be accepted.** The cost of the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) should be made through online payment gateway available in the website by the way of multiple bank's net-banking, debit card and credit card.

Name of work: Gauge Conversion in Madurai-Bodinayakkanur Section: Improving the drainage facilities in and around LC No.13 including seepage arresting arrangements at subway in lieu of LC No.13 at Km.15/600-700 in Madurai-Usilampatti section.

Approximate Cash Value in ₹: **8853455.20;** Bid security / Earnest Money Deposit : ₹ **177100.00;** Period of completion in month(s) : **Three;** Closing/ Opening Date @ **15.00 hrs : 07.06.2023;**

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INDIAN RAILWAYS
RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION

TENDER NOTICE No. RE/MS/S&T/OT/2023-2024/01
Dated: 12.05.2023

For and on behalf of The President of India, The Deputy Chief Signal and Telecommunication Engineer, Railway Electrification, Egmore, Chennai - 600008, invites E-Tender for the following works. Bidder will be able to submit their original / Revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored and summarily rejected.

EMD and Tender Forms Cost (TFC) are to be paid online through IREPS portal (**www.ireps.gov.in**) and no manual payments will be accepted for these tenders.

1. Tender No. **RE MS-SnT-SIG-Gr-356-23-01; Date: 06.05.2023, Signalling work of** "Modification of existing MACLS signalling arrangements at 4 stations viz., USLP, ADPT, TENI, BDNK and 17Nos. Interlocked Engg. LC gates to suit 25kV., AC RE in MDU-BDNK Section of (Gr. 356) Madurai Division of Southern Railway Supply & Installation of HASSDAC in SRR-NIL section of (Gr. 275) Palakkad Division of Southern Railway and Modification of EI software in VPT yard of (Gr. 277) of Madurai Division of Southern Railway in connection with Railway Electrification".

Completion Period: **06 Months;** Approximate Cost: ₹ **2,65,68,258;** EMD: ₹ **2,82,900/-**; Cost of Tender Form: **Nil**; Closing Date : **12.06.2023**.

2. Tender No. **RE MS-SnT-Tele Gr-356-23-02; Date: 12.05.2023, Telecommunicaion work of** "Trenching laying of OFC, 6-quad/PIJF cable splicing & termination of OFC, Jointing & terminating of 6-quad / PIJF cable, installation & commisioning of way station equiment, provision of emergency sockets etc at SP/SSP/TSS, and other associated equipment in MDU-BDNK (MADURAI - BODINAYAKKANUR) of Madurai Division of Southern Railway in connection with Railway Electrification".

Completion Period: **05 Months;** Approximate Cost: ₹ **2,25,32,660;** EMD: ₹ **2,62,700/-**; Cost of Tender Form: **Nil**; Closing Date : **13.06.2023**.

Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) and the tender documents are available in the website **www.ireps.gov.in** and the tenderers are advised to refer the same.

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KMML Spreading Splendour
The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam - 691 583
Ph : 91-476-2651215 to 2651217 email: contact@kmml.com, URL : www.kmml.com

TENDER NOTICE

No	Tender Id	Name of the Work
1	2023_KMML_575578_1	Supply, Installation, Testing and commissioning of DCS for New CAS and WTP on turnkey basis.
2	2023_KMML_575490_1	For the supply of Jumbo Bag 1000 Kg capacity for RC-822 grade pigment - 8750 Nos
3	2023_KMML_575455_1	For the supply of 15 MT of Zirconium Ortho Sulphate
4	2023_KMML_575186_1	For the supply of Low-Density Polythene (LDPE) Film / Sheet
5	2023_KMML_574520_1	For the supply of High Purity Liquid Argon

Chavara 12.05.2023 Sd/- Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

Government of India / Department of Space
Indian Space Research Organisation
SATISH DHAWAN SPACE CENTRE SHAR
SRIHARIKOTA-524 124,TIRUPATI DT. (A.P)
इसरो isro

ADDENDUM 15.05.2023

Please refer to advertisement **No. SDSC SHAR/RMT/02/2023 dated 26.04.2023** inviting applications for filling up of vacancies in notified Scientific & Technical posts. An Addendum has been published in SDSC SHAR Website notifying the vacancies in 2 additional posts/disciplines and increasing the number of vacancies in 7 notified posts /disciplines. All concerned are advised to visit SDSC SHAR website **(https://www.shar.gov.in/ (or) https://apps.shar.gov.in/).** Last date for submission of online applications is extended up to **04.06.2023 (1700Hrs).**

INBRIEF

PM visits exhibition on 100 episodes of *Mann Ki Baat*

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday visited an exhibition inspired by the themes highlighted in the *Mann Ki Baat* radio programme. The exhibition 'Jana Shakti: A Collective Power' by top artists has been specially curated to mark the completion of 100 episodes of the programme. It is being held at the capital's National Gallery of Modern Art. On Sunday, the Prime Minister was taken on a special walkthrough of the exhibition and the artists explained their artworks and the themes of *Mann Ki Baat* that inspired their work. Among the other initiatives to mark the 100th episode are Amar Chitra Katha comic books featuring people and themes mentioned in the programme.

Centre to roll out 'lost mobile blocking, tracking system'

Mobile users will be able to block and track their lost or stolen cell phones across India with the roll out of a tracking system by the government this week, a senior government official said. The Centre for Department of Telematics (CDoT) has been running the pilot project of the CEIR (Central Equipment Identity Register) system in some of the telecom circles, including Delhi, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and the northeast region; and the system is now ready for pan-India deployment, a DoT official, who did not wish to be identified, said. "The CEIR system is scheduled for pan-India launch on May 17," the official said. PTI

L. Murugan to lead delegation to Cannes Film Festival

Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting L. Murugan will lead an Indian delegation to the Cannes International Film Festival this year, the Ministry said on Sunday. Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur will address the inaugural session through a video message to showcase India as a global hub for content creation. Mr. Murugan will be accompanied by filmmaker Guneet Monga of *The Elephant Whisperers* fame; Manushi Chillar, winner of the Miss World 2017; Esha Gupta, actor; and Kangabam Tomba, an acclaimed Manipuri actor.

Trial against Saif Ali Khan to begin in 11-year-old case

Trial against actor Saif Ali Khan and two others is likely to begin next month for allegedly assaulting a South African businessman and his father-in-law at a hotel in Mumbai, 11 years ago. On April 24, an Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate framed charges against Mr. Khan and his two friends – Shakeel Ladak and Bilal Amrohi – under Sections 325 (voluntarily causing grievous hurt) and 34 (common intention) of the Indian Penal Code. The trial is likely to begin from June 15. The case dates back to February 22, 2012 when the businessman, Iqbal Mir Sharma, alleged that there was a fight with the trio at a five-star hotel in Mumbai.

IMD issues fourth heatwave alert for the Konkan region

Mumbai, Palghar, Thane, Konkan, central Maharashtra, Vidarbha, have been given the warning, says the agency; people have been advised to follow the guidelines to mitigate impact

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has declared a heatwave in various regions of Maharashtra, including Mumbai, Palghar, Thane, Konkan, central Maharashtra and Vidarbha.

This is the fourth heatwave alert for the Konkan region and the first in May, the IMD said.

The State is currently experiencing high temperatures, with the mercury soaring above normal levels. Authorities and individuals are advised to take immediate preventive measures and follow necessary guidelines to mitigate the impact of the heatwave and ensure the safety of residents in these affected areas, it said.

Several areas in central Maharashtra, Marathwada and Vidarbha have been reeling under above-normal temperatures for the past three weeks.

No respite: A file photo of an award ceremony on the outskirts of Mumbai on April 16, during which 13 people died of heatstroke. AFP

On May 12, in areas of the Central Maharashtra region, the maximum temperature in Jalgaon was 44.9 degrees Celsius, and in Jeur, 43 degrees Celsius. In Akola, in the Vidarbha region, the maximum temperature was 44.5 degrees Celsius; in Parbhani and in the Marathwada region, 43.6 degrees Celsius. Mumbai recorded 35.2 degrees Celsius.

Lubaina Rangwala, Associate Director, World Resources Institute (WRI) India, said, "This year's summer has been brutal, and each year, it is getting progressively worse. Last April, Mumbai saw temperatures higher than 35 degrees Celsius with relative humidity upwards of 80% in some areas."

"What this means is that the city was exposed to a heat index (or wet bulb temperature) upwards of 50 degrees Celsius. In coastal cities, temperatures higher than 35 degrees Celsius are dangerous because they surpass a body's ability to cool off after exposure and result in severe illnesses and fatalities. In this scenario, across the country, it is a national emergency that cities and districts prepare heat action plans that are well-monitored and tailored to the needs of those most vulnerable," Ms. Rangwala said.

"Along with heat wave warnings, there is a need to issue clear directives to citizens at the city and district levels to avoid going out during the afternoon hours during the warning period, particularly for senior citizens and children wherever possible, stay hydrated, and take other basic precautionary measures," said Madhavan Nair Rajeevan, former Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India.

Bail orders should not be too long or too late, says SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has held that orders of courts in bail cases should neither be too long and elaborate nor come too late as both violate the constitutional mandate of personal liberty.

A Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and Sanjay Karol said judges, while rejecting or granting bail to accused persons, should not slip into extensive deliberations on the merits of the case or evidence involved. Such "long" debates at the stage of bail may prejudice the case itself for the accused.

Again, once a case for bail is reserved for orders, the pronouncement of the decision should not take too long. Every day of waiting is a dent on the personal liberty of an undertrial.

The Bench underscored the importance of brevity in bail orders and the need for promptness in their pronouncement while allowing bail to Kadar Nazir Inamdar, represented by advocates Sana Raees Khan and Sriram Parakkat. He is an accused in the murder of Shiv Sena leader Rahul Shetty in 2020.

Ms. Khan argued that the Bombay High Court had rejected his bail application in a "detailed" 16-page order elaborating the merits and evidence of the case. Moreover, the High Court had kept the case reserved for orders for three months last year. The court agreed with Ms. Khan that Inamdar had been behind bars for nearly three years. He was accused of only conspiracy.

The Maharashtra counsel had vehemently objected to the plea for bail, saying the High Court had discussed the "circumstances" of the crime which "clearly points the finger towards" Inamdar.

The Supreme Court, however, deprecated the "practice of detailed elaboration of evidence in the orders granting/rejecting bail/anticipatory bail and the practice of long delay between reserving the matter for order and pronouncing the order".

ICSE Class 10 and ISC Class 12 results declared

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) announced the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE Class 10) and Indian School Certificate (ISC Class 12) results for 2023 on Sunday.

The pass percentage of ICSE Class 10 and ISC Class 12 this year is 98.94% and 96.93%, respectively. Girls have outperformed boys in both the exams. The western region had the best pass percentage at 99.81% for ICSE Class 10 followed by the southern region with a pass percentage of 99.69%.

In Class 10, nine students shared the top rank with 99.8% marks.

In Class 12, five students shared the first rank with 99.75%.

While the Class 10 examinations started on February 27 and ended on March 29, the Class 12 (ISC) examination commenced on February 13 and ended on March 31.

Go First pilots vexed over DGCA's rule on one-year notice period

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

With budget airline Go First seeking voluntary insolvency, hundreds of its pilots are jumping ship after months of delayed salaries and with other dues still pending. But a controversial DGCA rule that mandates a one-year notice period has left the cockpit crew feeling furious and helpless.

Captain Rohit Verma (name changed), with more than 15 years of flying experience, has multiple job offers from Go First's rivals, including Air India. Salaries at Go First have been delayed since October last year by anywhere between one to three weeks. In April, the salary for the previous month was credited only on April 28, and employees have not yet been paid for April.

The pilots also faced steep cuts since COVID-19, and Mr. Verma estimates various dues owed to him along with pending gratuity to be nearly ₹20 lakh.

But the DGCA's Civil Aviation Requirement on Flight Crew Standards Training and Licensing prevents him from securing a new job immediately. The rule makes it mandatory for commanders to serve a notice period of one year and first officers six months, failing which their actions may be construed as an "act against the public interest" because of likely "cancellation of flights and harassment to passengers".

Rigid rules: Pilots say that the DGCA has no locus standi to interfere in an employee-employer matter. FILE PHOTO

It justifies the long notice period on the ground that an airline spends nine to 10 months on training a pilot.

But pilots say that the rule is biased in favour of airlines, and that the DGCA has no *locus standi* to interfere in an employee-employer matter especially when it does not offer safeguards for pilots when an airline fails to meet its obligations such as payment of salaries.

Pilots' worries

The notice period issue has pilots sandwiched. While their new employer has demanded that they sign an indemnity form to protect itself from legal liabilities, pilots are apprehensive that Go First may not provide them a no-objection certificate, along with other mandatory documents, to work for another company.

Last week, the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) admitted Go First's plea for insolvency and granted it an interim moratorium under which lessors, lenders, vendors, airports and the regulator were barred from taking any adverse action against the airline. The court also instructed the interim resolution professional to ensure there was no retrenchment of employees.

However, the airline's CEO, Kaushik Khona, told his staff during a recent meeting that the airline has been granted protection from releasing pilots, which employees say is a deliberate misinterpretation of the court order.

On April 4, the Federation of Pilots (FIP) had written to Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia underlining that the notice period rule was "exploitative" and posed "significant safety risk to the aviation industry". Questions sent to Go First remained unanswered till the time of going to press.

IOA taking charge of WFI is a victory for us: wrestlers

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Protesting wrestlers on Sunday termed the Indian Olympic Association's (IOA) decision to take charge of all the activities of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) as the "first step" in their fight against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, the former WFI chief.

The IOA, in a letter on May 12, asked the Secretary-General of the WFI to hand over the documents, including financial instruments, to its ad-hoc panel, making it clear the outgoing office-bearers shall have no role in the running of the federation. The WFI said it has no issues in obeying the order since they were already cooperating with the authorities.

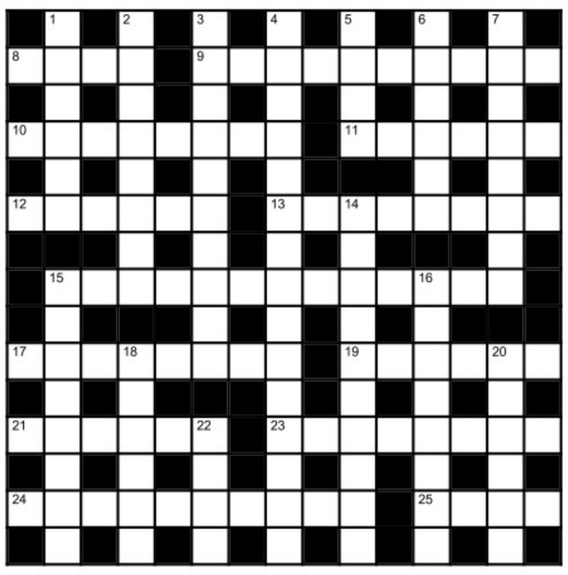
"This [the dissolution of the current WFI] is the first step in our fight for justice. Our fight has begun in right earnest, it's a victory for us... and we will continue or fight until we get justice," said Bajrang Punia, one of the protesting wrestlers.

TH CROSSWORD + 13865

(set by Crescent)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Drink some wine from counter (4)
9 Ring returning gold, sound of digging into mountains? (10)
10 Herb to the West, or coriander primarily, that Latin cooking shares (8)
11 'A' quality shelled nuts served with milk (2,4)
12 People close to chief can cheat to some extent (4,2)
13 Boater, say going round Italian island, an islander? (8)
15 Fancy silver bringing out pet passion to have the perfect set (3,4,1,5)
17 Poor souls, by inhaling Ecstasy, wish to sneeze? (5,3)
19 Army told to switch position resulting in defeat (3,3)
21 Head over before time for soup (6)
23 State is dividing group in revolt (8)
24 Instant reprimand of sorts (6-4)
25 Join a bar (4)

Down

1 Old house of Florence Nightingale, essentially about the same in retrospect (6)
2 Cocktail sort of rummy, rum all but dainty (3,3,2)
3 Fabulous creature's horn just sticking outside from hay (5,5)
4 Target most vulnerable area of huge gaur, jolt and run off (2,3,3,7)
5 Hip American supporting those that crow aloud (4)
6 Olive tree's first new flower (6)
7 Suicidal king out of bounds, like in a jungle (8)
14 Main way to deal with setter - perhaps answering this for clue? (4,6)
15 Succeeded in doubling base amidst collapse (8)
16 Excited voters missing leader may remain longer than expected (8)
18 Spread pounds scammed in cloud (6)
20 Day spent by pool to conduct non-competitive event (3,3)
22 Stops boundaries (4)

SUDOKU

		1	4		9			
5	7	9		6				
	4						3	
			1				5	8
			9		7			
6	5				4			
	6						2	
				2		8	7	5
			7		1	3		

No.SS5799 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

O	V	E	R	L	E	A	F	
L		S		A		M		
I	N	C	I	D	E	N	T	
V		A		L		E		I
E	X	P	R	E	S	S	E	S
R		E				I		L
			F	L	E	A		
S		C		I				
P	R	O	P	M	A	N		
E		N		E		O		
C	A	V	I	L		A	L	L
I		E		I		H		L
F	O	R	A	G	E		V	I
I		S		H				D
C	R	E	A	T	E		W	E

A	S	S	U	C	H			
	E		N		A			
S	N	A	F	U	S			
E		A		B				
S	P	I	K	E				
C		R		E				
E	C	H	E	L	O	N		
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A	L	L	T	H	U	M	B	S
L		O		P		I		
V	I	G	I	L	A	N	T	
			D		S		L	I
W	E	A	T	H	E	R	S	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	4	7	8	6	5	9	2	3
5	8	9	3	2	1	6	7	4
6	2	3	7	9	4	8	5	1
7	9	1	6	4	3	2	8	5
2	6	4	5	8	9	3	1	7
3	5	8	1	7	2	4	9	6
4	7	2	9	5	6	1	3	8
9	1	5	4	3	8	7	6	2
8	3	6	2	1	7	5	4	9

FAITH

Lessons from Swethakethu

Chandokyopanishad contains eight chapters. The first five chapters deal with meditation (upasana) matters. The remaining deal with Brahmam, the supreme being. Sixth chapter is considered as "Sathvidhya" as it starts with the word Sath denoting Paramathma or Brahmam. It entails the journey of Swethakethu from ignorance to the knowledge of the self and truth. The boy was sent to Gurukulam at the age of 12 by his father. He learned all the four Vedas and returned at the age of 24. Usually learning gives wisdom and knowledge besides humility and politeness. But Swethakethu was goaded with infatuation that he learned all. His father sage Aaruni was upset that his son's behaviour was unbecoming of a learned scholar.

Sage Aaruni asked his son whether he learnt about knowledge of the supreme being. Like a person who believes in the utterance of his lies that they would save him, Swethakethu told his father that his guru did not teach that. He tried to cover up his mistake of not enquiring his guru about it. Had he requested, he would have been taught. But sage Aaruni started narrating about Brahmam.

We are toiling hard tethered by the worldly activities like a bird struggling to fly and finally giving up when its legs are tied up by a hunter. Those who realise the self and Supreme being Brahmam will have no rebirth. They are called Sathyabhinanda. Those who don't are called Anruthabhinanda and such people will be destined to have rebirths, said Brahma Sri Mani Dravid in a discourse. Like a person not knowing the direction to go to his destination, being helped by someone, we are helped by Gurus and Acharyas to reach our destination of heavenly abode.

BANGKOK

Thai Opposition takes early lead in vote count in general election

AFP

Thailand's main Opposition party, fronted by Paetongtarn Shinawatra (in the photo), took an early lead in a vote count from Sunday's general election, touted as a pivotal chance for change nine years after incumbent Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha first came to power in a 2014 coup. AP

QUETTA

13 killed, families taken hostage in Pakistan paramilitary base attack

FILE PHOTO

More than a dozen people were killed in a battle between Pakistan paramilitary troops and militants who stormed their base and took families hostage, the Army said. "Well equipped" fighters assaulted a Frontier Corps compound in Muslim Bagh, Balochistan province, and captured three families in a residential block, it said. AFP

OUAGADOUGOU

Suspected Islamic radicals kill 33 in village in Burkina Faso

FILE PHOTO

An attack by suspected Islamic extremists on a village in the west of Burkina Faso killed 33 civilians, the provincial governor's office said. Provincial governor Babo Pierre Bassinga called the attack "cowardly and barbaric." He said the attack happened as residents were at work in their fields beside the Mouhoun river. AP

YUMA

Shooting at neighbourhood meet in Arizona kills two, wounds five

FILE PHOTO

A shooting at a neighbourhood gathering in Arizona's Yuma left two people dead and five wounded, police said on Sunday. Yuma Police spokesperson Sgt. Lori Franklin said the motive for the shooting wasn't immediately known, but that there was no remaining threat to the community. AP

Erdogan takes early lead in Turkey's knife-edge vote

The incumbent President has steered the nation through one of its most transformative eras in the post-Ottoman state's 100-year history; he is lionised across swathes of conservative Turkey

Agence France-Presse
ANKARA

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan took an early lead on Sunday in a landmark election that could extend his two-decade grip on power or put the mostly Muslim nation on a more secular course.

The Anadolu state news agency showed the 69-year-old picking up more than 51% of the vote and his secular rival Kemal Kilicdaroglu trailing with nearly 43%.

But Anadolu's figures were based on around 60% of the ballots and Mr. Kilicdaroglu claimed that his party's own vote count showed him winning.

"We are leading," Mr. Kilicdaroglu tweeted after Anadolu's results started coming out.

Most of Anadolu's early votes appeared to be coming from heavily pro-government districts and Mr. Erdogan's lead was shrinking as the number of counted ballots grew.

Pivotal turn: Supporters of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan waiting eagerly for the results, in Ankara on Sunday. AFP

"We are seeing a positive picture, according to our data," Opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) spokesperson Faik Oztrak told reporters.

A separate count reported by the pro-opposition Anka news site showed the two leaders locked in a dead heat and falling just short of the 50% threshold needed to avoid a May 28 run-off.

Most pre-election polls showed 74-year-old Opposition leader Mr. Kilicdaroglu enjoying a slight advantage over Mr. Erdogan.

Huge turnout

Turnout was expected to be huge in what has effectively become a referendum on Turkey's longest-serving leader and his Islamic-rooted party.

Mr. Erdogan has steered the nation of 85 million through one of its most transformative and divisive eras in the post-Ottoman state's 100-year history.

Turkey has grown into a military and geopolitical heavyweight that plays roles in conflicts from Syria to Ukraine.

The NATO member's footprint in both Europe and the Middle East makes the election's outcome as critical for Washington and Brussels as it is for Damascus and Moscow.

Mr. Erdogan is lionised across swathes of conservative Turkey that witnessed a development boom during his rule.

More religious voters are also grateful for his decision to lift secular-era restrictions on headscarves and introduce more Islamic schools.

The emergence of Mr. Kilicdaroglu gives foreign allies and Turkish voters a clear alternative.

Three killed, roofs torn off as Cyclone Mocha makes landfall in Myanmar

Associated Press
DHAKA

Thousands of people hunkered down on Sunday in monasteries, pagodas and schools, seeking shelter from a powerful storm that slammed into the coast of Myanmar, tearing the roofs off buildings and killing at least three people.

The centre of Cyclone Mocha made landfall on Sunday afternoon in Myanmar's Rakhine state near Sittwe township with wind speeds up to 209 kilometres per hour, Myanmar's Meteorological Department said. Earlier, the storm passed over Bangladesh's Saint Martin's Island, causing damage and injuring people, but turned away from the country's shores before landfall.

Fury unleashed: Residents checking the damages after Cyclone Mocha crashed ashore, in Kyauktaw in Myanmar on Sunday. AFP

Myanmar's military information office said the storm had damaged houses, electrical transformers, cell phone towers, boats and lampposts in Sittwe, Kyaukpyu, and Gwa townships. It said the storm also tore roofs off of sport buildings on the Coco Islands, about 425 kilometres southwest of the country's largest city, Yangon.

Rakhine-based media reported that streets and basements of the houses in Sittwe's low-lying areas were flooded, and that people in low-lying areas were trapped in their houses and unable to communicate.

Much of the area is cut off from telephone and Internet service after high winds crumpled cell phone towers.

More than 4,000 of Sittwe's 3,00,000 residents were evacuated to other cities and more than 20,000 people are sheltering in sturdy buildings such as monasteries, pagodas and schools located on the city's highlands, said a volunteer in Sittwe.

Titon Mitra, the U.N. Development Program representative in Myanmar, tweeted: "Mocha has made landfall. 2 million people at risk. Damage and losses are expected to be extensive. We are ready to respond."

Roxy Mathew Koll, a scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology in Pune, said cyclones in the Bay of Bengal are becoming more intense more quickly, in part because of climate change.

Imran slams Pakistan Army, says it should be ashamed for jumping into politics

Press Trust of India
LAHORE

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan hit out at the country's powerful Army in his first address after an Islamabad court set him free, saying it should be ashamed of jumping into politics and could form its own political party.

Addressing the nation from his Lahore home on Saturday, Mr. Khan took strong exception to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) allegations against him and said the spokesperson of the Army's military wing was not even born when he represented Pakistan in the world.

"I kept Pakistan's flag high world over. Never has ISPR made such a statement. You should be ashamed of yourself. You have jumped into politics. Why don't you make a political party," Mr. Khan said in an hour-long maiden speech after the Islamabad High Court gave him blanket relief in all 145 cases registered against him.

Imran Khan

His remarks came in response to ISPR Director-General Major General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry's statement in which he called Mr. Khan a "hypocrite".

Strong comments

"Listen to me Mr. DG ISPR...you were not even born when I was representing my country in the world. You need to be ashamed of yourself for calling me a hypocrite and anti-Army," he said in a harsh rejoinder.

Before leaving for Lahore, the 70-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief hit out at the "imported government for kidnapping" him despite the Islamabad court granting him bail in all cases.

Russia says two military commanders killed in battle

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW

Russia said on Sunday that two of its military commanders had been killed in combat near the frontline hotspot of Bakhmut in eastern Ukraine.

In a rare announcement of its losses on the battlefield, the Russian Defence Ministry said the commander of the 4th motorised rifle brigade, Vyacheslav Makarov, and the deputy commander of the Army Corps for military-political work, Yevgeny Brovko, had been killed in fighting in eastern Ukraine.

Referring to the mercenary group Wagner, Moscow said that "assault detachments" have continued to fight for control of western parts of Bakhmut.

Ceasefire between Israel and militants in Gaza appears to hold after days of fighting

Associated Press
GAZA CITY

A fragile ceasefire between Israeli forces and militants in the Gaza Strip appeared to be holding on Sunday after a five-day clash that killed 33 Palestinians and two people in Israel.

The latest round of Gaza fighting was sparked on Tuesday when Israeli jets killed three top commanders from the Islamic Jihad militant group in response to earlier rocket launches from Gaza.

Those killings set off a barrage of militant fire and the conflagration threatened to drag the region into another all-out war until an Egyptian-brokered ceasefire took hold late Saturday.

While the calm appeared to bring a sense of relief to Gaza's 2 million people and hundreds of thousands of Israelis who had been largely confined to bomb shelters in recent days, the agreement did nothing to address the underlying issues that have fuelled numerous rounds of fighting between Israel and Palestinian militant groups in the Gaza Strip over the years.

Israeli officials expressed satisfaction with the latest battle, having killed at least six members of Islamic Jihad's top brass in what it says were pinpointed strikes. But at least 13 of those killed in Gaza were civilians, among them children as young as 4 years old.

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CMC invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputed firms/ consultants for the aesthetics of indoor spaces and buildings of the CMC College and CMC Ranipet Campuses, as per the ethos of Institution. Interested firms should have prior experience in hospitals / educational institutions and be willing to station in Vellore and execute the work within 6 months.

Interested firms may send their EOI in a sealed envelope, along with their profile, experience details and testimonials from their client and/or any other relevant details to the General Superintendent, Christian Medical College, Vellore, Tamil Nadu – 632 004 by June 15th, 2023.

General Superintendent, CMC Vellore

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of our client **Mr.Gautham Maloo, S/o Bhaver Lal Maloo,** to bring to the notice of the general public that the original sale deed dated 31-5-1991 registered as document number 564/1991-92 in book-1 Volume No.3735 page nos.183 to 190, registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Gandhinagar is lost.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document, they shall return the same or contact the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

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Property bearing **Corporation No.106/2,** PID No.27-12-106/2, **Second Floor,** situated at 6th Cross, Gandhinagar, Bangalore, measuring 2167 Sq Ft of built up area with 1/3rd UDS i.e 1173 Sq ft and bounded on : **East by : Private Property belongs to heirs of Late Chidambaram, West by: Road, North by: Property bearing No.105, South by: Property bearing No.107.**

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ASKUS

Bhavana Acharya

Q I'm 30 years' old, earning ₹30,000 a month. I have 5 SIPs worth ₹8,500 per month which I have been running for the past 3 years. How valuable is this? Should I invest elsewhere or hold it for longer for huge returns to build my dream home?
RAJENDRA SINGH

A It is commendable that you are investing a good portion of your income. Regular investing and holding on to investments are immensely valuable in building wealth. Mutual funds are also excellent vehicles to invest. So, you are ticking all the right boxes.
There is no comment that can be made on how good your current investments are, or if you need alternatives without knowing what funds you hold or the asset allocation mix or your time-frame. Note the following points – one, if you hold equity funds, such funds need at least 5-7 years to deliver and can see low returns or losses in the meantime. Markets have seen ups and downs in the past 3 years, and have been flat to declining in the past several months. Two, check if the funds you hold are quality performers by measuring them against their benchmark and peers and not just on the returns you have earned. If you have quality funds, continue to invest in them. If not, switch to better performers. Three, the mix of the types of funds in your portfolio should be based on the time-frame you have.
Four, keep return expectations realistic. While equity delivers the best among asset classes, 'huge' returns is unrealistic. Do not bank on outsized multi-bagger returns. Decide how much your home will approximately cost and set a target date for this. Then use online calculators, with realistic return assumptions, to decide whether your current investments will get you there or if you should extend your time-frame or increase investments.

Q I am 24 with a salary of ₹17,000. For the past four months, I have been investing in monthly SIPs as follows: ₹1,000 in Navi Nifty 50 Index MF, ₹300 in each of the following smallcases – Gold & Equity, Dividend Kings, Indian Top 250 and ₹600 in USDT. I am planning to make another SIP of ₹500 in a Gold ETF. If I maintain the same investment proportion as my salary increases, will I be able to generate good return?
SOUVIK PARUI

A A good portion of your investments goes into the Nifty 50, which is fine and you can continue with this. Smallcase portfolios in general are good ways to invest in stocks, but track performance closely to ensure that your returns are not hurt. 3 smallcases is a lot, though, especially since each investment amount is small. Unless the performance of each is good enough to warrant higher investments, consolidate these.
With the Equity & Gold smallcase, you already have exposure to gold. Adding another gold ETF will significantly increase this allocation; typically, more than 10-15% of a portfolio in gold is avoidable. Therefore, step up investment in the smallcase by some amount and redirect the rest into other index funds such as the Nifty 500 or Nifty Midcap 150 – or in debt funds or fixed deposits for more balanced allocations. Alternatively, scale back investment in the smallcase and go for the gold ETF. As far as USDT goes, be aware that it is extremely high risk and both the regulatory aspect and taxation are tricky. We generally do not recommend these as part of core portfolios. At this point, you can take on risk and your investment amount is low. Therefore, it will be hard to build meaningful asset allocation and going heavily towards equity is fine.
However, as your investment amount grows, along with income and lifestyle changes, you will need to bring in better allocation between debt and equity. The current mix may not be suitable. Reassess as your investment grows and improve the diversification in line with your time-frame and risk.
(The writer is co-founder, PrimeInvestor.in)

Send queries on personal finance and investing to the moneywise@thehindu.co.in ID. Our experts in personal finance will respond to select queries, but will not give specific recommendations for investment in a particular mutual fund, share or fixed deposit.

Tax saving got easier with the new regime

With higher tax exemption and better slabs under the new regime, younger investors get to choose where to invest, and are also spared from the home loan EMI burden to save tax outflows

BETTER CHOICE

Vidya Bala

From this financial year, all the younger folks in my small team decided to go for the new tax regime. Their choice made perfect sense. With the higher tax exemption and better tax slabs under the new tax regime, younger investors get the freedom to choose where they wish to invest in. More importantly, they don't need to lock their money in products or options that may be sub-optimal.

If you are one of those parents advising your daughter/son with a first job to open a PPF, buy a money-back insurance policy, and then invest in a flat - all for tax saving - I am afraid your advice will not hold water any more (not that rest of your advice is heeded anyway!).

I am sure many of you are not with me in this line of thought! You may argue that tax incentive is a major consideration for savings in India. Hence, a new tax regime, without such incentives, might turn a nation of young people into spenders than savers, you might worry. That might simply remain a worry. And hear why!

When I started with a job over two decades ago, most of our investment decisions were determined by tax breaks. It could have been a poor returning guaranteed income policy or

> Provident Fund at the work place should suffice. Options in post office small savings such as recurring deposits or time deposits should be good

buying a first or second house merely to get the interest on home loan deduction. For the wiser ones, a chunk of your savings may have gone into good products such as PPF, but then leaving very little to deploy in the capital markets and earn more returns in the long term.

For the most part (other than PPF), these were sold to you by manufacturers or those who earned hefty commissions from such manufacturers, and you were made to believe that no product without tax incentive is a good product.

Risky products

Many poor-returning products with 4-5% returns or less were sold on their strength of having tax breaks. Many unsuitable and risky products were sold to seniors for tax breaks.

I think moving towards an exemption-less regime or the New Tax Regime would help your children break-free from the shackles of such product manufacturers and distributors. It will also force manufacturers to focus on performance than sell under the guise of tax breaks.

> A simple index fund using indices like the Nifty 50 is all it takes to get exposed to the capital market. SIPs are also good for the long term

I think the younger generation can also be spared from the unnecessary home loan EMI burden that was imposed on many of you, to save tax outflows, despite poor rental yields as low as even 2%!

So, if you are wondering where your children will invest in a no-tax incentive regime, don't worry, there are a plethora of options.

Where to begin?

If your son or daughter is employed, then the Provident Fund available in their company should suffice for the safe and secure investment option. PPF is not a must. Options in post office small savings such as recurring deposits or time deposits should also be good. Over the years, PPF rate has only steadily been falling and cannot be expected to touch the 9% plus levels that you were enjoying long ago. In fact, the post office time deposit currently offers 7.5% for a 5-year deposit – higher than PPF (which is also subject to change every year). Do remember that even this is not a must. If your child prefers an online deposit in their bank account, many new-age banks offer good deposit rates now. A deposit up to ₹5 lakh, given the insurance cover, is safe to invest in, for attractive rates.

Once this is done, the next thing is to look for options that can deliver well over the long term for wealth building. No, there is no need to approach a distributor or introduce your daughter to your bank relationship manager to start this. They can start with simple index mutual funds and ETFs and do an SIP regularly for the long term. Your child will likely know where to do this online. If not, ask them to talk their friends or Google to find out. A simple index fund using indices like the Nifty 50 is all it takes to get exposed to the capital market. This is a far better way to start investing than burdening your children with tens and thousands of EMIs at an young age.

Term cover

Of course, by all means, encourage your daughter/son to have a term cover (especially if you are a dependent or they have dependents) and good health insurance cover – even without the tax benefit. These cost less when they are young and carry immense benefit.

Nothing more is really needed for beginners. And if they have some free cash without the Section 80C savings, let the adults enjoy it in their own terms, it's not your regime anymore!

(The author is co-founder, PrimeInvestor.in)

Be mindful of human capital risk

THINKINVESTOR

It is difficult to determine the present value of your future earnings, given the uncertainty relating to your earnings growth and the number of years you are likely to earn

Venkatesh Bangaruswamy

To diversify is human. Small wonder that many prefer to invest in diversified equity funds and keep fixed deposits across multiple banks. Previously in this column, we discussed how you can create a diversified portfolio by diversifying the source of returns – income returns and capital appreciation. In this article, we discuss why you should diversify with a view to reducing risk associated with your human capital.

Human capital refers to the present value of your future earnings (active income). It is difficult to determine your human capital, given the uncertainty relating to your earnings growth and the number of years you are likely to earn. But it is important that you diversify the source of your family's human capital, if possible. By this, we mean that it is optimal that you and your spouse work in different companies. That way, the risk of losing active income because of lay-offs is less than if both of you work in the same company.

The second aspect of diversification is between human capital and investment capital – two assets that every working executive has. Your investment capital is the accumulated wealth that comes from investing your savings. Your savings is a function of your active income. It is, therefore, important that you do not have a significant proportion of your investments tied to the same source as your human capital. For instance, having significant exposure to your employer stock. It is highly likely that a large-scale lay-off by a company coincides with its stock underperforming in the market. At the extreme, one could argue that it is best to avoid exposure to stocks in the sector that you work so that your human capital has lower linkages to your investment capital. While practically difficult to do so, it is best that you consider investing in a large-cap or a broad-cap equity fund.

If you and your spouse work for the same company, you can consider two ways to moderate human capital risk. One, maintain a larger amount in your contingency reserve. For spouses aged 35 and above, it is optimal to have six times the average monthly expenses (including any monthly loan repayment) as contingency reserve. If you and spouse work in the same company, it may be optimal to increase this reserve by 30-50%. And two, you could strive to live on one-and-half income – your post-tax income after savings and half of your spouse's post-tax income.

(The author offers training programmes for individuals to manage their personal investments)

Bank Fixed Deposit Rates

Bank Name	Highest Slab	Interest Rates (%) 1-year Tenure	3-year Tenure	5-year Tenure
Small Finance Banks				
AU Small Finance Bank	8.00	6.35	8.00	7.20
Capital Small Finance Bank	7.60	7.15	7.15	7.10
Equitas Small Finance Bank	8.50	8.20	8.00	7.25
ESAF Small Finance Bank	8.50	6.00	6.75	6.25
Fincare Small Finance Bank	8.41	7.50	8.00	8.00
Jana Small Finance Bank	8.15	7.25	7.35	6.00
Suryoday Small Finance Bank	9.10	6.85	7.25	9.10
Ujjivan Small Finance Bank	8.25	6.50	7.20	7.20
Utkarsh Small Finance Bank	8.25	7.75	7.50	7.50
Private Sector Banks				
Axis Bank	7.20	6.80	7.00	7.00
Bandhan Bank	8.00	7.25	7.25	5.85
CSB Bank	7.25	5.00	5.75	5.75
DBS Bank	7.50	6.25	6.50	6.50
DCB Bank	8.00	7.25	8.00	7.75
HDFC Bank	7.10	6.60	7.00	7.00
ICICI Bank	7.10	6.70	7.00	7.00
IDFC First Bank	7.75	6.75	7.75	7.00
IndusInd Bank	7.75	7.50	7.75	7.25
Karnataka Bank	7.30	7.00	6.50	6.50
Karur Vysya Bank	7.50	7.00	7.00	6.25
Kotak Mahindra Bank	7.20	7.10	6.50	6.20
Nainital Bank	7.05	6.70	6.25	5.75
SBM Bank India	7.80	7.05	7.65	7.65
South Indian Bank	7.40	6.60	6.50	6.00
City Union Bank	7.00	6.75	6.50	6.25
TMB	7.25	7.25	6.50	6.50
Public Sector Banks				
Bank of Baroda	7.05	6.75	6.75	6.50
Bank of India	7.15	6.00	6.50	6.00
Bank of Maharashtra	7.00	6.35	6.00	5.75
Canara Bank	7.25	7.00	6.80	6.70
Central Bank	7.10	6.75	6.25	6.25
Indian Bank	7.25	6.10	6.25	6.25
Indian Overseas Bank	7.25	6.50	6.50	6.50
Punjab National Bank	7.25	6.80	7.00	6.50
Punjab & Sind Bank	7.35	6.40	6.25	6.25
State Bank of India	7.10	6.80	6.50	6.50
Union Bank of India	7.30	6.30	7.30	6.70
Foreign Banks				
Deutsche Bank	7.75	7.00	7.75	7.25
HSBC Bank	7.50	4.00	7.00	6.00

Home Loan Interest Rates

Name of Lender	Loan Amount (Rs.) Upto 30 lakh	Above 30 lakh & upto 75 lakh	Above 75 lakh
			(In %)
Public Sector Banks			
State Bank of India*	9.15-10.15	9.15-10.05	9.15-10.05
Bank of Baroda	8.60-10.65	8.60-10.65	8.60-10.90
Union Bank of India	9.00-10.75	9.00-10.95	9.00-10.95
Punjab National Bank	8.65-9.60	8.60-9.50	8.60-9.50
Bank of India	8.65-10.75	8.65-10.75	8.65-10.75
Canara Bank	8.85-11.25	8.85-11.25	8.85-11.25
UCO Bank	8.45-10.30	8.45-10.30	8.45-10.30
Punjab and Sind Bank	8.85-9.95	8.85-9.95	8.85-9.95
Indian Overseas Bank	8.85 onwards	8.85 onwards	8.85 onwards
Private Sector Banks			
Kotak Mahindra Bank	8.85 onwards	8.85 onwards	8.85 onwards
ICICI Bank	9.00-9.80	9.00-9.95	9.00-10.05
Axis Bank	8.75-12.70	8.75-12.70	8.75-9.15
HSBC Bank	8.60 onwards	8.60 onwards	8.60 onwards
South Indian Bank	9.85-12.60	9.85-12.60	9.85-12.60
Karur Vysya Bank	9.23-12.13	9.23-12.13	9.23-12.13
Karnataka Bank	8.75-10.43	8.75-10.43	8.75-10.43
Federal Bank	10.15-10.20	10.20-10.25	10.25-10.30
Dhanlaxmi Bank	9.35-10.50	9.35-10.50	9.35-10.50
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	9.35-9.85	9.35-9.85	9.35-9.85
Bandhan Bank	9.15-15.00	9.15-13.32	9.15-13.32
RBL Bank	9.15-11.55	9.10-11.30	9.10-11.30
CSB Bank	9.69	9.69	9.94
City Union Bank	12.25 - 14.00	12.75 - 14.50	13.25 - 14.75
Housing Finance Companies (HFCs)			
LIC Housing Finance	8.60-10.35	8.60-10.55	8.60-10.75
HDFC Ltd.	8.50-10.35	8.50-10.60	8.50-10.70
Bajaj Housing Finance	8.60 onwards	8.60 onwards	8.60 onwards
Tata Capital	9.15 onwards	9.15 onwards	9.15 onwards
PNB Housing Finance	8.75-14.50	8.75-13.00	8.75-11.35
GIC Housing Finance	8.45 onwards	8.45 onwards	8.45 onwards
Repco Home Finance	9.80 onwards	9.80 onwards	9.80 onwards
ICICI Home Finance	9.20 onwards	9.20 onwards	9.20 onwards
Godrej Housing Finance	8.64 onwards	8.64 onwards	8.64 onwards

*Concession of 5 bps under Privilege and Shaurya HL and Apon Ghar HL if maintaining salary account with SBI under salary package

Rates as on May 11 **Source:Paisabazaar.com**

STUMPED

Samson does not have an answer for dismal performance

Rajasthan Royals skipper Sanju Samson, *not in pic*, had 'no answer' to his batters getting bundled out for 59 against Royal Challengers Bangalore on Sunday. On the floundering campaign in the latter half of the IPL, Samson said, "I was thinking about where it went wrong. Sorry, I do not have an answer for that."

BACK TO BUSINESS

Rashid indicates Hardik might bowl in next match

Rashid Khan indicated that Hardik is 'feeling alright' and might bowl in the home match against Sunrisers Hyderabad. "The moment he (Hardik) came to the ground (against Mumbai Indians), he had a bit of back issue. But he definitely will be alright for Monday's game," said Rashid.

FIFTIES GALORE

Warner accomplishes unique record in the IPL

Delhi Capitals skipper David Warner accomplished the record of smashing the most 50-plus scores against an opponent in the IPL. The Australian achieved this feat against Punjab Kings on Saturday by scoring 54 off 27 balls. It was his 13th half-century in 24 innings against Kings.

EVOLUTION

Talent was there but maturity level has changed: Joshi on Prabhsimran

Prabhsimran Singh smashed a match-winning 65-ball 103 for Punjab Kings against Delhi Capitals on Saturday. "I think the talent was always there with him, the maturity has changed. He started thinking about the game. He started respecting the bowlers also," said Kings spin bowling coach Sunil Joshi.

Clinical Royal Challengers annihilate Royals' challenge

Fifties by du Plessis and Maxwell power the Bengaluru side to 171 before Parnell & Co. bundle out Samson's men for 59

IPL-16

Lalith Kalidas
JAIPUR

Royal Challengers Bangalore handed Rajasthan Royals a massive jolt in its IPL-16 playoffs bid with a colossal 112-run win at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium here on Sunday.

A horrendous batting implosion on its home turf has placed the 2022 runner-up on the brink of an early exit before its final league game, while RCB strengthened its chances by moving to the fifth spot with 12 points.

Chasing a daunting 172-run target on a dry surface, Royals were blown away by RCB's rejuvenated PowerPlay burst.

Mohammed Siraj, who went wicketless in two successive games, removed the aggressive Yashasvi Jaiswal for a two-ball duck in the first over.

Lot to cheer about: Royal Challengers kept picking wickets with ridiculous ease on a day nothing went right for Royals. AFP

Buttler's fourth duck

Left-arm seamer Wayne Parnell silenced the spectators in pink when he prized out Jos Buttler for his fourth duck of the season before skipper Sanju Samson aimlessly offered a leading-edge catch in the second over.

Parnell (three for 10) then trapped Joe Root in the sixth over, reducing Royals to 28 for five inside the PowerPlay. Wickets continued to tumble even as Shimron Hetmyer offered a semblance of a counter when he whacked three consecutive sixes off leggie Karn Sharma.

Rapid decline

A rapid dust storm added to the challenge before Hetmyer and the lower-order surrendered at 59 – Royals' second-lowest total since 2008.

Earlier, RCB won the toss and asked the Royals to field in sweltering conditions. Contrasting fifties from captain Faf du Plessis and Glenn Maxwell provided substance to the innings.

While the Royals spinners managed to keep the run rate under control and seamer K.M. Asif undid the openers in the middle-overs, Maxwell's dash (54, 33b, 5x4, 3x6) helped the visitors brave a mini middle-order collapse.

Rawat's cameo

Wicketkeeper Anuj Rawat then swooped the momentum in RCB's favour by smiting Asif for 17 runs in the final over during his 11-ball cameo before the bowlers took over.

Next assignment

RCB: May 18 **vs. SRH**
Hyderabad, 7.30 p.m.

RR: May 19 **vs. PBKS**
Dharamsala, 7.30 p.m.

Low totals

Runs	Team	Opponent	Venue	Date
49	Royal Challengers	Kolkata Knight Riders	Kolkata	April 23, 2017
58	Rajasthan Royals	Royal Challengers	Cape Town	April 18. 2009
59	Rajasthan Royals	Royal Challengers	Jaipur	May 14, 2023
66	Delhi Daredevils	Mumbai Indians	Delhi	May 6, 2017
67	Delhi Daredevils	Kings XI Punjab	Mohali	April 30, 2017
67	Kolkata Knight Riders	Mumbai Indians	Mumbai	May 16, 2008

Points Table

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Gujarat Titans	12	8	4	0	16	0.761
Chennai Super Kings	13	7	5	1	15	0.381
Mumbai Indians	12	7	5	0	14	-0.117
Lucknow Super Giants	12	6	5	1	13	0.309
Royal Challengers	12	6	6	0	12	0.166
Rajasthan Royals	13	6	7	0	12	0.140
Kolkata Knight Riders	13	6	7	0	12	-0.256
Punjab Kings	12	6	6	0	12	-0.268
Sunrisers Hyderabad	11	4	7	0	8	-0.471
Delhi Capitals (E)	12	4	8	0	8	-0.686

After the CSK-KKR match on May 14 *E: Eliminated*

SCOREBOARD

ROYAL CHALLENGERS
Virat Kohli c Jaiswal b Asif 18 *(19b, 1x4)*, Faf du Plessis c Jaiswal b Asif 55 *(44b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Glenn Maxwell b Sandeep 54 *(33b, 5x4, 3x6)*, Mahipal Lomror c Jurel b Zampa 1 *(2b)*, Dinesh Karthik lbw b Zampa 0 *(2b)*, Michael Bracewell (not out) 9 *(9b)*, Anuj Rawat (not out) 29 *(11b, 3x4, 2x6)*; Extras (w-5): 5; Total (for five wkts. in 20 overs): 171.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-50 (Kohli, 6.6 overs), 2-119 (du Plessis, 14.5), 3-120 (Lomror, 15.1), 4-120 (Karthik, 15.3), 5-137 (Maxwell, 17.3).

ROYALS BOWLING
Sandeep 4-0-34-1, Zampa 4-0-25-2, Chahal 4-0-37-0, Ashwin 4-0-33-0, Asif 4-0-42-2.

RAJASTHAN ROYALS
Yashasvi Jaiswal c Kohli b Siraj 0 *(2b)*, Jos Buttler c Siraj b Parnell 0 *(2b)*, Sanju Samson c Rawat b Parnell 4 *(5b, 1x4)*, Joe Root lbw b Parnell 10 *(15b, 1x4)*, Devdutt Padikkal **(Impact Player for Chahal)** c Siraj b Bracewell 4 *(4b, 1x4)*, Shimron Hetmyer c Bracewell b Maxwell 35 *(19b, 1x4, 4x6)*, Dhruv Jurel c Lomror b Bracewell 1 *(7b)*, R. Ashwin run out 0 *(0b)*, Adam Zampa b Karn 2 *(6b)*, Sandeep Sharma (not out) 1 *(1b)*, K.M. Asif c Kohli b Karn 0 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-2): 3; Total (in 10.3 overs): 59.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-1 (Jaiswal, 0.2), 2-6 (Buttler, 1.2), 3-7 (Samson, 1.4), 4-20 (Padikkal, 4.2), 5-28 (Root, 5.3), 6-31 (Jurel, 6.6), 7-50 (Ashwin, 7.6), 8-59 (Hetmyer, 9.5), 9-59 (Zampa, 10.1).

RCB BOWLING
Siraj 2-0-10-1, Parnell 3-0-10-3, Bracewell 3-0-16-2, Karn 1.3-0-19-2, Maxwell 1-0-3-1.

Toss: RCB; **PoM:** Parnell.
RCB won by 112 runs.

Rinku, Rana dash CSK's bid to seal playoffs spot

Ayan Acharya
CHENNAI

Kolkata Knight Riders beat Chennai Super Kings by six wickets at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai to stay alive in the IPL 2023 playoffs race. Although CSK is still well-placed to make it to the last four, a win on Sunday could've sealed the deal for M.S. Dhoni's men.

Deepak Chahar threatened to break the back of KKR's 145-run chase with three wickets in the PowerPlay, with the dismissal of Venkatesh Iyer standing out. Knowing Venkatesh's tendency to stay leg-side of the ball and hit square on the off-side, Dhoni had a short third-man in place to grab the edge, and that was where the catch went.

With his team three down for 46 after six overs, Nitish Rana, in the company of Rinku Singh, calmed frayed nerves. The presence of two left-handers at the crease meant Dhoni had to delay introducing Ravindra Jadeja into the attack. Meanwhile, Rinku eased the pressure with two boundaries off Moeen Ali in the ninth over. And when Jadeja finally came on in the 12th over, Rinku carted him for a six.

In between, Rana got a reprieve when Matheesha Pathirana dropped him at deep backward square. He made CSK pay with two inside-out boundaries off Moeen over covers in the 13th over. Both batters reached their respective fifties, and their 99-run stand ultimately ensured the cheers of the CSK fans gave way to gasps of despair and a well-deserved KKR win.

Earlier, Dhoni decided to bat on a 'sticky' surface. Varun Chakravarthy (two for 36) came on inside the first six and had Ruturaj Gaikwad caught. Sunil Narine (2/15) then bowled Ambati Rayudu before sending back Moeen in the same over.

Dube and Jadeja's alliance resulted in a more sedate phase of play initially. But in the 17th over, the two smacked Suyash Sharma for 16. Dube remained unbeaten on 48 off 34 and added 68 with Jadeja, but in the end, CSK was left to rue a below-par total.

Bold strokes: Rinku brought the Knight Riders' chase back on track with a fluent half-century. R. RAGU

SCOREBOARD

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS
Ruturaj Gaikwad c Arora b Varun 17 *(13b, 2x4)*, Devon Conway c Rinku b Shardul 30 *(28b, 3x4)*, Ajinkya Rahane c Jason b Varun 16 *(11b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Ambati Rayudu b Narine 4 *(7b)*, Shivam Dube (not out) 48 *(34b, 1x4, 3x6)*, Moeen Ali b Narine 1 *(2b)*, Ravindra Jadeja c Varun b Arora 20 *(24b, 1x6)*, M.S. Dhoni (not out) 2 *(3b)*; Extras (w-4, nb-2): 6; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 144.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-31 (Ruturaj, 3.3 overs), 2-61 (Rahane, 7.6), 3-66 (Conway, 9.3), 4-68 (Rayudu, 10.1), 5-72 (Moeen, 10.6), 6-140 (Jadeja, 19.4).

KNIGHT RIDERS BOWLING
Arora 4-0-30-1, Harshit 2-0-19-0, Varun 4-0-36-2, Narine 4-0-15-2, Shardul 3-0-15-1, Suyash 3-0-29-0.

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS
Jason Roy c Pathirana b Deepak Chahar 12 *(15b, 1x4)*, Rahmanullah Gurbaz c Deshpande b Deepak Chahar 1 *(4b)*, Venkatesh Iyer **(Impact Player in place of Suyash)** c Jadeja b Deepak Chahar 9 *(4b, 2x4)*, Nitish Rana (not out) 57 *(44b, 6x4, 1x6)*, Rinku Singh run out 54 *(43b, 4x4, 3x6)*, Andre Russell (not out) 2 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-10, nb-1): 12; Total (for four wkts. in 18.3 overs): 147.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-4 (Gurbaz, 0.6), 2-21 (Venkatesh, 2.5), 3-33 (Roy, 4.3), 4-132 (Rinku, 17.1).

SUPER KINGS BOWLING
Deepak Chahar 3-0-27-3, Deshpande 3.3-0-25-0, Moeen 4-0-31-0, Theekshana 3-0-22-0, Pathirana **(Impact Player in place of Dube)** 3-0-23-0, Jadeja 2-0-18-0.

Toss: Super Kings; **PoM:** Rinku.
Knight Riders won by six wickets with nine balls remaining.

Next assignment

CSK: May 20 **vs. DC**
Delhi, 3.30 p.m.

KKR: May 20 **vs. LSG**
Kolkata, 7.30 p.m.

Maximum effect

Sixes are the currency of T20 cricket. They can swing the momentum of the game in a snap. The six tally of each team and the spearhead of its artillery in this edition

Team	Sixes	Team topper	Sixes
KKR	118	Rinku Singh	25
MI	108	Suryakumar Yadav	24
CSK	105	Shivam Dube	30
RR	103	Yashasvi Jaiswal	26
RCB	**98**	**Faf du Plessis**	**34**
PBKS	95	Prabhsimran Singh	19
LSG	92	Kyle Mayers	22
GT	85	David Miller, Shubman Gill	13
SRH	64	Heinrich Klaasen	16
DC	50	Axar Patel	14

Stats till the CSK-KKR match on May 14

COMPILED BY KEERTHANA SHANKAR

Hardik's Titans determined to seal a playoffs berth

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

A win against Sunrisers Hyderabad should be enough for Gujarat Titans to ensure a top-four spot in IPL 2023.

After a rare blip against Mumbai Indians, Titans will be looking to return to winning ways in their last home game of the season at the Narendra Modi Stadium here on Monday.

Titans will be donning lavender-coloured kits as a cancer awareness initiative and with MI breathing down their neck, they need to quickly regroup. Barring Rashid Khan, none could make an impact against MI and returning to its home turf, where the score of 200 or more has been breached three times in the recent past, Titans will be hoping for the batters to step up.

While Wriddhiman Saha and Shubman Gill need to get off to a steady start on a batting-friendly surface, Vijay Shankar, David Miller and the 'finisher' Rahul Tewatia need to be more consistent in the middle-order.

Mohammed Shami needs to move on from the disappointing Mumbai game and conjure up magic with the new ball. As suspense remains on whether captain Hardik Pandya is fit to bowl his quota of four overs, the onus will be on Mohit Sharma to provide breakthroughs in the middle and death overs against Sunrisers, who are on the cusp of elimination.

Sunrisers could not defend 80 runs off the last six overs against Lucknow Super Giants due to a bizarre strategy.

Despite big names in the squad, the side blew hot and cold.

The team management drew flak for poor handling of Umran Malik, who hasn't played a game since April 29.

Key men: While Gill has been at his fluent best, Rashid gave a reminder on his batting ability in the previous game against Mumbai Indians. VIJAY SONEJI

Today's match

GUJARAT TITANS vs. SUNRISERS HYDERABAD
Ahmedabad, 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 2
GT 1 | SRH 1

PREVIOUS MEETING
GT won by **five wickets**, 2022

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIO CINEMA APP

INBRIEF

Double for Pramod; Suhas and Sukant also fetch golds

Pramod Bhagat won two golds, Sukant Kadam one gold and a silver and Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj one gold at the Thailand para badminton international on Sunday. Pramod defeated England's Daniel Bethell in the SL3 singles final 21-18 (retd), and in the doubles final, Pramod and Sukant won the gold defeating Nitesh Kumar and Tarun 18-21, 21-14, 21-19. Later, Sukant went down fighting to compatriot Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj in the SL4 category final 14-21, 21-17, 11-21 in 53 minutes.

Tejaswin clinches silver in Continental Tour event

Tejaswin Shankar took the men's high jump silver with 2.21m in the NACAC New Life Invitational, a World Athletics Continental Tour-Silver event, in Bahamas on Sunday. Meanwhile in Havana, Indian long jump record-holder Jeswin Aldrin finished second in the sixth Prueba de Confrontacion meet with a wind-assisted 8.09m (+2.8) and in the triple jump, T. Selva Prabhu claimed silver with 16.43m.

Australian doubles star Davidson passes away

Australian tennis player Owen Davidson (79), who won 13 Grand Slam doubles titles, died on Friday, the International Tennis Hall of Fame said. He won 11 mixed doubles and two men's doubles Major titles. Davidson teamed with Billie Jean King to win eight Grand Slam trophies. In 1967, Davidson became only the third player in history to win all four Major mixed doubles titles in the same year, including three with King.

Aditi stays in contention despite late double bogey

India's Aditi Ashok stayed in the frame despite a late double bogey in the third round of the Cognizant Founders Cup at New Jersey's Upper Montclair Country Club. She shot 1-under 71 and moved to 8-under for three rounds, but was four shots off the lead taken over by her playing partner, Australian Minjee Lee (67). Minjee, who played in the lead group at the same event last year also, was 12-under and chased by Angel Yin (68) and Korean Hae Ran Ryu (70) who were tied second while Aditi and Major champion Ashleigh Buhai (68) and the Korean superstar Jin Young Ko (72) were tied fourth. Aditi was 3-under for the day and 10-under for the tournament coming into the final stretch of three holes.

Shreehaan and Atharva shine with the bat for CCE

Half-centuries from Shreehaan Arinjai (69) and Atharva (52) helped CCE defeat Panthers CA by 47 runs in the Tiger Cup under-16 Trophy in Bengaluru on Sunday.

The scores: CCE 192/7 in 30 overs (Shreehaan Arinjai 69, Atharva 52, Nachiketh 25, Arjun 4/33) bt Panthers CA 145/6 in 30 overs (Adhrit Rao 54, Arjun 32).
Carmel 98 in 29.2 overs lost to Max Muller 100/2 in 12.3 overs (Vratin 48, Arya J. Gowda 29).

LIVE TELECAST

Badminton: Sudirman Cup, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 a.m. & 2.30 p.m.

IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.

Premier League: SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 12.30 a.m. (Tuesday)

LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 12.30 a.m. (Tuesday)

Manini placed sixth in rifle 3-position in World Cup

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau

Manini Kaushik made the women's 50-metre rifle 3-position final but placed sixth in the World Cup in Baku on Sunday.

Manini qualified in the sixth place with 579 and missed progress after shooting 415.6 in the final. Seonaid Mcintosh of Britain also shot 579 in qualification but managed to climb to the gold spot as she outclassed the field with a score of 467.0.

In men's rapid fire pistol, Vijayveer Sidhu shot 580 and missed the final by one point. India finished second on the table with one gold, two silver and a bronze medal. China topped with four gold, a silver and two bronze.

The results:
Men: 25m rapid fire pistol: 1. Li Yuehong (Chn) 33 (583); 2. Clement Bessaguet (Fra) 32 (587); 3. Florian Peter (Ger) 27 (590); 10. Vijayveer Sidhu 580; 14. Anish Bhanwala 579; 45. Ankur Goel 566; **RPO:** Adarsh Singh 578; Arpit Goel 564.
Women: 50m rifle 3-position: 1. Seonaid Mcintosh (GBR) 467.0 (579); 2. Jeanette Duestad (Nor) 463.6 (584); 3. Lisa Mueller (Ger) 448.9 (587); 6. Manini Kaushik 415.6 (579); 20. Anjum Moudgil 573; 28. Sift Kaur Samra 571; **RPO:** Shriyanka Sadangi 572; Nischal 569.

India loses opener to Chinese Taipei

Treesa and Gayatri show tremendous grit in recovering from an first-game loss to defeat Lee Chia Hsin and Teng Chun Hsun

Putting their hands up: Gayatri and Treesa saved India's blushes after the top stars had failed to find their A-game. GETTY IMAGES

SUDIRMAN CUP

Press Trust Of India
SUZHOU

Double Olympic medallist P.V. Sindhu's gallant fight ended in agony as India made a dismal start to its Sudirman Cup campaign, going down to formidable Chinese Taipei 1-4 in Group C opening round tie here on Sunday.

There was, however, no lack of fight from the Indian players as Tanisha Crasto and K. Sai Prateek started on a positive note in the mixed doubles contest but ran out of steam, losing 21-18, 24-26, 6-21 to World No. 30 Yang Po-Hsuan and Hu Ling Fang.

World No. 9 H.S. Prannoy then couldn't find his A-game, going down 19-21, 15-21 to World No. 5 Chou Tien Chen.

Sindhu then had the responsibility of bringing India back into the tie but it was always going to be a tough task with her nemesis and former World No. 1 Tai Tzu Ying standing across the net.

The 27-year-old couldn't go the distance with Tai Tzu managing a 21-14, 18-21, 21-17 win. India faces Malaysia on Monday.

The results: Chinese Taipei bt India 4-1 [Yang Po-Hsuan & Hu Ling Fang bt Tanisha Crasto & K. Sai Prateek 18-21, 26-24, 21-6; Chou Tien Chen bt H.S. Prannoy 21-19, 21-15; Tai Tzu Ying bt P.V. Sindhu 21-14, 18-21, 21-17; Lee Yang & Ye Hong Wei bt Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty 21-13, 17-21, 21-18; Lee Chia Hsin & Teng Chun Hsun lost to Treesa Jolly & P. Gayatri Gopichand 21-15, 18-21, 13-21]. Korea bt France 4-1; Malaysia bt Australia 5-0; Japan bt England 5-0; Denmark bt Singapore 4-1; China bt Egypt 5-0;

Prraneeth is India's 82nd Grandmaster

CHESS

V.V. Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

V. Prraneeth became Telangana's sixth and India's 82nd Grandmaster when he outwitted GM Hans Niemann of the US in the penultimate round of the Baku Open 2023. The win against the top seed helped Prraneeth cross Elo 2500 in live ratings, 2500.5 to be exact.

The 15-year-old Prraneeth earned his first GM-norm at the First Saturday tournament in March 2022 where he also became an IM. He earned his second GM-norm at Biel MTO in July 2022. Nine months later, he earned his final GM-norm at the second Chessable Sunway Formentera Open 2023.

"One dream is fulfilled. It is an unforgettable moment in my career," a visibly delighted Prraneeth told *The Hindu* on Sunday. "Though it is part of my journey to some of the bigger goals, it is a very significant milestone," he said.

"The immediate targets are crossing Elo 2500, then 2700. Obviously, the ultimate goal is to win the World Championship which I know is not that easy but I will not be found wanting in terms of effort and hard work," the youngster said.

V. Prraneeth.

"One year back, though I had a decent game I was getting into time pressure. But, now slowly improving in this regard," Prraneeth said. "I was trained by N.V.S. Ramaraju Sir till 2021 before hiring Israel GM Victor Mekhalevski and he is helping me a lot in analysing games," the Intermediate first year student of Vishwa Chaitanya College said.

"It is good to see so many young GMs from India and I feel this helps Indian chess in a big way," said the young player who admires Magnus Carlssen and Anatoly Karpov.

"The next big event for me is the Asian Continental championship in Kazakhstan and I hope to do well," he said.

"Definitely, looking for some kind of sponsorship as you all know it is very challenging to train and compete at the highest level because a lot of travelling is involved. Hope the GM title will get me a sponsor," Prraneeth added.

Spotlight on Annu Rani at the Federation Cup

ATHLETICS

Stan Rayan
RANCHI

She has been quietly training in Germany for the last four months and has stayed away from competitions.

Now with a series of meets coming up in the next few months – including the Asians, Worlds and the Asian Games – Annu Rani is back in the country.

Nobody is expected to trouble Rani, the Commonwealth Games bronze medallist and a World Championships finalist, at the 26th National Federation Cup athletics championships which begin at the Birsa Munda Stadium here on Monday, but all eyes will be on the star javelin thrower. To see how much her German training has helped.

The Athletics Federation of India has marked the Federation Cup as a qualification event for the Asian Championships, which will be held in Thailand in July, and with only two berths available in every event, a close fight is expected in many events.

The men's triple jump is one event where one can expect fireworks, though Praveen Chithravel who rewrote the National record to push it to a heady 17.37m early this month in Cuba, is not here.

"All four (Praveen, Abdulla Aboobacker, Karthik Unnikrishnan and Eldhose Paul) are capable of going close to it or even breaking it," said Hari Krishnan, who has been guiding the triple jumpers at the National camp. "Eldhose has a slight ankle pain, but he will be back at the inter-State meet."

India won the Commonwealth Games gold and silver through Eldhose and Abdulla in Birmingham last year. But only Abdulla and Karthik will be in action here.

Raising the bar: Annu Rani is back in India after a training stint in Germany and would be looking to display her progress. REUTERS

Determined Priya Mohan ready for a new challenge

Stan Rayan
RANCHI

As Cuban Anier Garcia shouts loudly, forcing his athletes to push harder during their sprint repetitions at the Birsa Munda Stadium here on a burning Sunday morning, Priya Mohan appears strong and determined.

Two years ago, she was the country's fastest quartermiler and a junior World Championship relay medallist. But a lot has changed in her life now.

She parted ways with her long-time coach Arjun Ajay two months ago in Bengaluru and is now training at the JSW's Inspire Institute of Sport at Ballari under Garcia, the 2000 Olympic 110m hurdles champion.

The new life is not easy, but this is a new Priya.

"My new coach has an aggressive approach, he makes us work hard but then there's enough rest during practice which works out well," said Priya in a chat with *The Hindu* here on Sunday. "He's an Olympic champion, that motivates us a lot too."

A hamstring injury saw her skip the last few competitions, but Priya is keen to clock a personal best time in the Federation Cup which begins on Monday.

"This will be a new start for me and I'm looking at a 'greater' timing in the inter-state Nationals (in Bhubaneswar, June). I want to give the World Championships qualification time (51s) a shot," said the 20-year-old, who has a personal best of 52.37s.

Rezoana Mallick Heena, the 16-year-old who is coached by her former coach Ajay, is now the country's fastest woman and the No. 2 Asian this year (52.98s) that came with the under-18 Asian gold in Tashkent recently.

Toughening up: Priya's new coach Anier Garcia has an aggressive approach, but she says it's working well. STAN RAYAN

Djokovic and Swiatek move into the last-16

Raising his game: Djokovic overcame a mid-match lapse before defeating Dimitrov. AP

ITALIAN OPEN

Agence France-Presse
ROME

Novak Djokovic reached the last 16 of the Italian Open on Sunday after defeating Grigor Dimitrov 6-3, 4-6, 6-1.

Iga Swiatek also cruised into the last 16, thrashing Lesia Tsurenko 6-2, 6-0 while Daniil Medvedev beat Emil Ruusuvuori 6-4, 6-2.

World No. 8 Maria Sakkari was the latest victim in the top-10 to crash out, losing 7-5, 6-3 to Marketa Vondrousova.

Man City closer to another league title as Brighton douses Arsenal's challenge

EURO LEAGUES

Agence France-Presse
LIVERPOOL

The flickering embers of Arsenal's Premier League title dream were all but extinguished as it suffered a 3-0 home defeat by Europe-chasing Brighton and Hove Albion on Sunday.

With relentless Manchester City, spurred by Gundogan's brace, winning 3-0 at Everton in the earlier kickoff to move four points clear, Arsenal knew only a victory would suffice to keep it in the hunt.

But it produced a laboured display against the crafty south coast club for whom Julio Enciso, Deniz Undav and Pervis Estupinan all scored after the break as Roberto De Zerbi's side moved up to sixth place.

What a finish! Gundogan leaves Everton's defence stunned with this effort for City's opener. AP

A fifth league defeat of the season left Arsenal on 81 points with two games remaining to City's 85 with three left and victory for Pep Guardiola's side next weekend against Chelsea would wrap up City's fifth title in six seasons.

West Ham wasted a chance to seal its survival as goals from Bryan Mbeumo and Yoane Wissa clinched Brentford's win.

The results: Premier League: Brentford 2 (Mbeumo 20, Wissa 43) bt West Ham 0; Everton 0 lost to Manchester City 3 (Gundogan 37, 51, Haaland 39); Arsenal 0 lost to Brighton 3 (Enciso 51, Undav 86, Estupinan 90).
LaLiga: Elche (de la Torre 41) bt Atletico Madrid 0.
Serie A: Monza 2 (Mota 18, Petagna 54) bt Napoli 0.
On Saturday: La Liga: Real Madrid 1 (Asensio 70) bt Getafe 0.
Serie A: Inter Milan 4 (Lukaku 41, 89, Tressoldi 55-og, Martinez 58) bt Sassuolo 2 (Henrique 63, Frattesi 77).

Newer, bolder and redesigned *Sportstar* unveiled

The magazine will now combine journalistic features that have become a staple in the digital era; action photographs will blend into inspired artworks by the designers

Star night: A glittering array of sports personalities, along with Suresh Nambath, Ayon Sengupta, Raghuvir Srinivasan and L.V. Navaneeth, at the launch function.
K. MURALI KUMAR

GENERAL

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

The redesigned *Sportstar* magazine was unveiled at an event at The Taj MG Road here on Sunday.

Roger Binny, M.M. Somaya, Vimal Kumar, Anju Bobby George, Aparna Popat, V.R. Raghunath, Lakshya Sen, Shaili Singh and India hockey player Abhishek were some of the sportspersons who were present on the occasion.

The *Sportstar* magazine, a sister publication of *The Hindu*, will now combine journalistic features that have become a staple in the digital era.

The magazine will bring the best of mobile storytelling to print pages, creating layouts that are vibrant with graphics, quotes, and bolder colours. A more legible typeface will best accentuate the drama and passion that sports evoke.

The much-adored posters will also see a change. Action photographs will blend into inspired artworks by the designers – turning champions into superheroes.

Sportstar will seek to raise consciousness of India's desire to become a major sporting nation.

"Keeping pace with the taste of today's generation brought up in a world of Instagram reels and e-sports thrills, we are unveiling a newer, bolder *Sportstar*, while still holding on to the ethos of honest journalism that we have always practised. And extraordinary young talents, ready to shoulder the burden of India's expectations, will find pride of place in our pages, as you can see in our effort to put the spotlight on India's nine brightest young sport stars of today," said *Sportstar* Editor Ayon Sengupta.

Sengupta also spoke about the upcoming issue's nine-part cover story that features the up-and-coming stars across disciplines.

Suresh Nambath, Editor, *The Hindu*, Raghuvir Srinivasan, Editor, *Business Line*, and L.V. Navaneeth, CEO, *The Hindu Group*, also unveiled the redesigned magazine.

Eminent sportspersons recall their special bond with *Sportstar*

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Eminent sports personalities, across disciplines and eras, recalled their association with the *Sportstar* magazine. The redesigned *Sportstar* was unveiled at an event here on Sunday.

Anju Bobby George, long jump medallist at the 2003 World Championships in athletics, arrived at the event with Shaili Singh.

The young Shaili, a hugely talented long jumper, is trained by Anju and her husband Robert Bobby George.

"*Sportstar* has been an integral part of my sporting journey. I was featured many times on the *Sportstar* magazine cover, and now I'm happy to see Shaili Singh on the cover of the latest issue. Shaili is the future of Indian athletics," Anju said.

Anju referred to the upcoming issue's nine-part cover story. Cricketer Yashasvi Jaiswal, shuttler Lakshya Sen, hockey player Abhishek, footballer Sivasakthi Narayanan, Shaili, squash player Anahat Singh, shooter Rhythm Sangwan, Paralympian Avani Lekhara, and wrestler Aman Sherawat are the up-and-coming stars featured in the latest issue of *Sportstar* magazine.

M.M. Somaya, who won a gold medal with the Indian men's hockey team in the 1980 Moscow Olympics, reminisced about collecting posters from the *Sportstar* magazine. "I put a poster of (former India hockey captain) Ajit Pal Singh prominently in my home. Ajit Pal Singh was my hero," Somaya said.

BCCI President and 1983 World Cup-winner Roger Binny mentioned that *The Hindu* group boasted of some of the best cricket writers. "*Sportstar* always brought cricket to the limelight. The articles were informative and interesting," Binny said.

Former Indian women's badminton national champion Aparna Popat spoke about being featured in the *Sportstar* magazine at a young age. "I was first featured in the *Sportstar* magazine when I was 10, after winning an inter-school tournament. A few years later, *Sportstar* was the first publication to interview me after I won a silver medal at the World Junior Championships," Aparna said.

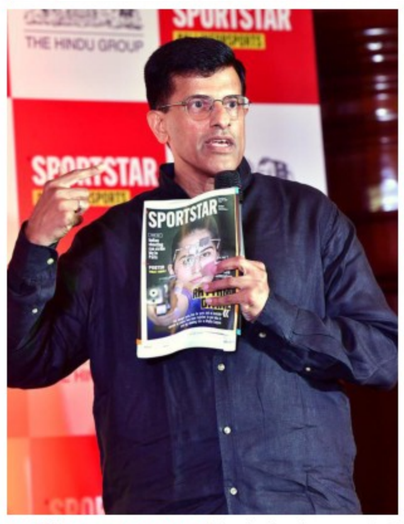
Vimal Kumar, former Indian men's national badminton champion and co-founder of the Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy, said, "Right from my playing days, we all looked forward to reading the *Sportstar* magazine. I remember a lovely feature story written on Prakash Padukone (1980 All England Championship winner). I still have that issue," Vimal said.

Vimal's ward Lakshya said it was his childhood dream to see his photo in a sports magazine. "And here it is now," Lakshya said, pointing to his picture splashed on the cover of the redesigned magazine.

Shaili and Abhishek explained that the recognition will serve as motivation to bring more laurels on the international stage.

A day to remember: Young badminton star Lakshya savours the moment with his parents.
K. MURALI KUMAR

Celebrating a sporting tradition



Holding centrestage: (Clockwise from top) Shaili Singh, Aparna Popat, and Anju Bobby George strike a pose, while Somaya, Lakshya, Binny, Vimal Kumar and Abhishek relive their *Sportstar* memories. K. MURALI KUMAR

Struggling Chelsea agrees terms with Pochettino as per reports

Agence France Presse
LONDON

Chelsea is on the verge of hiring Mauricio Pochettino as its new manager after agreeing terms with the former Paris Saint Germain boss, reports said on Sunday.

Pochettino is reportedly set to join Chelsea at the end of this season as he returns to the Premier League four years after his sacking by Tottenham.

The Argentine will replace interim manager Frank Lampard at Stamford Bridge as Chelsea co-owner Todd Boehly bids to get his troubled club back on track after a dismal season.

Pochettino will be Chelsea's sixth permanent manager in five years after Boehly sacked Thomas Tuchel in September and then axed Graham Potter in April.

The favourite: Pochettino is reportedly set to join Chelsea at the end of this season. FILE PHOTO

Pochettino, who has also managed in the Premier League with Southampton, left PSG in July 2022 and was replaced by Christophe Galtier.

Pochettino guided Tottenham to the Champions League final in 2019 where it finished runner-up to Liverpool.

He also led the north Londoners a second place finish in the Premier League in 2017 and the League Cup final in 2015, missing out on the silverware to Chelsea on both occasions.

Despite failing to end a Tottenham trophy drought that stretches back to 2008, Pochettino was widely admired by his players.

Tottenham striker Harry Kane recently bemoaned the change in the club's culture since the Argentine's exit.

Following his Tottenham stint, the 51-year-old took over at PSG in January 2021. It finished second in Ligue 1 in 2022, winning the Coupe de France and the Trophee des Champions, which were the first trophies of Pochettino's managerial career.

He led PSG to the French title in his second season but departed after failing to make an impact in the Champions League, with a last 16 capitulation against Real Madrid especially damaging to his reign.

In crisis

Considered for the Manchester United job before Erik ten Hag's appointment last year, Pochettino will arrive in west London to find a club in crisis.

Chelsea had last won the title in 2017.

PCB hopes to get India's nod for hybrid model for Asia Cup

Associated Press
ISLAMABAD

The Pakistan Cricket Board is still hopeful India agrees to its hybrid model of hosting majority of the Asia Cup games at a neutral venue in September.

The hybrid model is the brainchild of Najam Sethi, who is the head of the PCB management committee.

Sethi met with the members of the Asian Cricket Council in the United Arab Emirates this week to work out solution after India said it will not travel to Pakistan for the event, apparently because of political tensions between the two countries.

"Until India is ready to play Pakistan bilaterally and in Pakistan, let's have a hybrid solution," Sethi said.

Sethi's suggestive model to end the impasse means India could play Pakistan at a neutral venue in major tournaments like the Champions Trophy and even the World Cup, while the remaining matches are played in the host nation as scheduled.

After India hosts the World Cup later this year, Pakistan is due to host the Champions Trophy in 2025.

Sethi believes the hybrid model could work in both major events because he could face a similar situation if the Pakistan government asks him not to send the national team to the World Cup in Oct.-Nov.

"I am concerned about not just the Asia Cup but also the World Cup and the Champions Trophy," Sethi said. "The World Cup will be in India my government might turn around to me and say we have security issues there, you don't go.

"And then the Champions Trophy following the World Cup, which we are hosting. India might turn around and say the same thing. What I am proposing is the way out of this logjam."

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